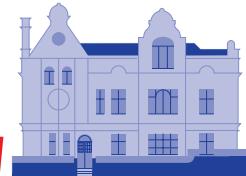


# OSWESTRY & BORDER CHRONICLE



THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2018

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TOP WHERE SOLD

# FUNDS CALL GOES TO WESTMINSTER

Report by Sue Austin

**BOSSES** at Derwen College are to take their calls for changes to how specialist education is funded all the way to Westminster.

Top level talks to change national funding rules so people from across the UK can benefit from the specialist education offered at the college will take place with a government minister later this month.

The Gobowen-based college has announced that it is having to make up to 30 redundancies to keep it sustainable for the future. One of the reasons for the reduction in staff is due to students not being successful in getting grant funding to attend the college.

Bosses from the college for young students with disabilities and learning difficulties will meet children's minister Nadhim Zahawi to raise awareness of the funding problems.

Principal Meryl Green said the Children and Families Act's emphasis on localism meant it was now difficult for students to travel from outside their own area for residential education. She said the college was working on a response to a review of the legislation and said she was delighted by the chance to meet the minister on June 20.

The Westminster talks have been organised by North Shropshire MP Owen Paterson who said they would be exploring ways the minister could help. He said: "We have got to get the message across that Derwen College is providing a national and very specialised service. Local governments are being squeezed and in the general scheme of their budgets these young people are missing out."

Oswestry Mayor Sandy Best said the failure to invest in specialist education was "bad house-keeping" by the Government. She said: "It is costing money in the long term."

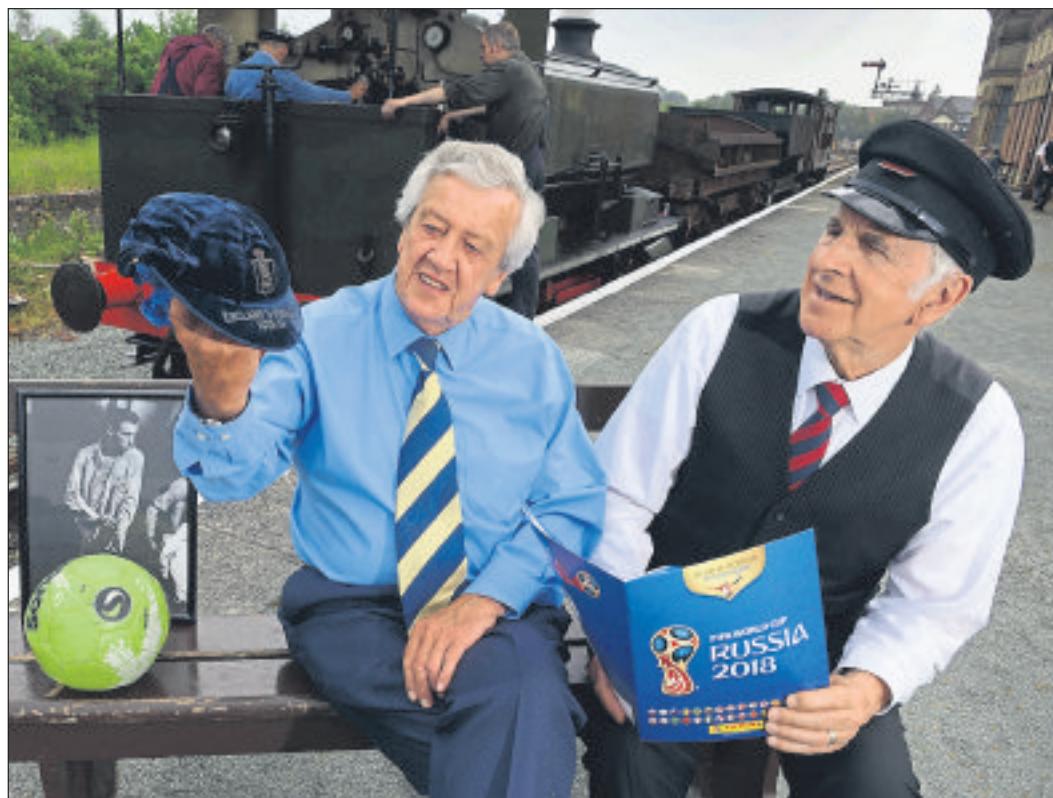
"Providing funding to Derwen College to allow young people to benefit from this amazing education would save money that has to be spent on social care payments. These young people gain the skills they need to become more independent and not have to rely on the state."

The college is one of the region's largest employers, with about 400 staff.

The current student figure is 230, which includes students on residential and day placements.

● Investment - See Page 2

## Rail event will be special treat for footie fans



Charles Roberts holds one of Sir Stanley Matthews's international caps, watched by Mike Rowe, the station master at Oswestry

THE football specials - trains that used to be specially chartered to take fans to matches - are no more.

But they will be celebrated at an event at the Cambrian Heritage Railways' headquarters on Sunday when a host of football programmes and memorabilia will be among the attractions at Oswestry station.

As well as commercial stalls the Shropshire Reds, the county branch of Wrexham FC, will hold a sticker swap shop, sponsored by Stan's Superstore, to help collectors complete their World Cup sticker books.

Trains will run all day from 11am and Britain's best known RAF team the Red Arrows will do a fly past to mark the Football Special railway event.

David Owen, from the railway group, said: "We wrote and asked if there was any chance that the team would be able to visit and were delighted when we had a positive response."

"We don't yet know what time the fly past will be."

## FLOODING

### School is closed to allow specialist work on asbestos

SPECIALIST contractors have carried out repair work after a primary school containing asbestos was hit by flooding.

Flash floods caused major problems on May 27 with water getting into the Gungro Road site of Welshpool Church in Wales School. Flooding caused damage to carpets and has disturbed asbestos that is believed to have been in the carpets.

It has been known for some time that the school, along with many others in Powys, has levels of asbestos in it. However it isn't harmful to pupils or staff.

It is not believed that the disturbed asbestos will cause a health risk, however contractors have been brought in to deal with the issue. The school was shut at the beginning of this week to allow the work and reopened yesterday (Wednesday). A spokesman for Powys County Council said: "The school's other sites in Oldford Close and Howell Drive are not affected."

"The council was aware of the presence of asbestos, surveys were carried out of the county's schools some years ago."

The asbestos isn't a new find, as last year a Freedom of Information request discovered that a total of 80 schools across Powys had levels of asbestos-containing material.

● Twitter - See Page 3

## AWARD

### Top royal honour won by cricket club

A CRICKET club near Oswestry has been awarded a prestigious royal honour.

Knockin and Kinmerley Cricket Club has won a coveted Queen's Awards for Voluntary Service, the highest honour given to volunteer groups across the UK.

The club was honoured for being "truly inclusive in fostering teamwork, respect, discipline, sportsmanship and enjoyment and being committed to supporting people of all ages, genders, abilities and those with disabilities".

## INSIDE

### Women's work to be celebrated



PAGE 20

ELLESMORE  
FOOD &  
DRINK  
Festival

Ellesmere will be holding its Food and Drink Festival over the weekend of Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th June 2018.

This coincides with Father's Day, enabling families to come together and enjoy the food, drink and events in and around the Ellesmere area.

The Festival which is held inside as well as outside the Market Hall is mostly undercover and is open from 10am until 4pm both days.



## FREE ENTRY

16th & 17th JUNE 2018

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# Residents told to stay indoors in shell alert

DOZENS of residents in a village near Oswestry were told to stay indoors after what is thought to be a wartime shell was unearthed on a building site.

The discovery happened just yards from homes at Park Hall, the former army training camp on the edge of Oswestry.

A team of contractors working to clear an area designated for homes raised the alarm on Tuesday afternoon.

Police officers were quickly on the scene.

The police set up a cordon around a large area of land.

Police officers went from door to door asking residents who live in the former army married quarters to stay indoors.

The residents were asked to keep away from the windows for fear of an explosion.

One resident, who did not wish to be named, said on Tuesday afternoon: "We have been told not to go outside. The police are waiting for the bomb squad to arrive."

The area includes Park Crescent, Larkhill Road, Artillery Road and St Barbara's Place, Park Hall.

The Park Hall army camp was closed in the mid 1970s.

It had been a base for infantry training and the Royal Artillery Juniors Leaders base.

## Fire crews deal with kitchen blaze

FIREFIGHTERS from Oswestry and Ellesmere dealt with a kitchen fire caused by cooking that had been left unattended.

The fire service was alerted to the fire in Lime Grove, Oswestry on Monday. Firefighters wearing breathing apparatus entered the building and brought the fire under control within 45 minutes. There were no injuries.

Report by Jonny Drury

**A BIZARRE** Twitter spat involving a Poundland store and a rail company has gone viral.

And the staff at the store's Welshpool branch have become the unlikely subject of the row.

Poundland has threatened to sue Thameslink after the train firm compared its poor service to the shop's cooking chocolate. It defended the record of its customer service, using the efforts of staff in Welshpool during recent floods as an example.

Thameslink has backtracked, saying it was "very sorry" for making the comment in response to a disgruntled passenger.

The operator has suffered major disruption following the introduction of a new timetable on May 20. A passenger named Kevin tweeted an image of a departures board showing cancellations trains with a sarcastic caption which read: "Why, Ambassador @TLRailUK, with this fine service you are really spoiling us."

### Infuriated

Thameslink replied: "Very sorry Kevin. Appreciate at the moment the service is less Ferrero Rocher and more Poundland cooking chocolate."

The comment infuriated bosses at the West Midland-based retail chain.

The store's retail director Austin Cooke hit back in a scathing response by releasing an open letter to chief executive Charles Horton, and within it his reply heaped praise on staff in its Welshpool store.

The town was hit by flash flooding on May 27.

Staff at the Berriew Street store stood in the entrance to help customers with their shopping, and managed to keep the store open.

In his response Mr Cooke insisted that the commitment of the Welshpool staff showed good customer service and that train company had no right to use Poundland's name to describe poor service.

He also threatened Mr Horton with legal action if the tweet was not removed.

• Grateful – See Page 11

# Store staff hailed for efforts in Twitter row

## Big hearted art for anniversary of NHS



**Karen Breese**, clinical specialist nurse in dementia, with dementia support workers **Sarah Brown** and **Lucy Davis**

NURSES from Shropshire's two acute hospitals turned sculptors to help create a piece of art to mark 70 years of the NHS.

The heart sculpture, which is being made by Luke Kite at the British Ironwork Centre near Oswestry, will be unveiled at the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust's charity fun day on July 7. A number of off-duty nurses travelled to the centre and helped weld items on to the sculpture. Old pieces of

equipment such as obsolete blood pressure monitors, parts of hospital beds, surgical hands, microscopes, a former anaesthetic machine and wheelchairs are being used to create the lasting tribute to the NHS.

**Karen Breese**, clinical specialist nurse for dementia, said: "I have never welded anything in my life so this was a totally new experience for me. It was great fun and I am told I did a good job. I look forward to finding the piece I did when the

sculpture is unveiled to the public. The sculpture is being designed as a heart to reflect the nation's love of the NHS and I think everyone is going to love what the artist has produced. It is so exciting."

**Clive Knowles**, chairman of the British Ironwork Centre, said: "We are creating something that will stand the test of time and not only reflects our love for the NHS but also the caring and hard-working people who work at SaTH."

## ANTIQUE COLLECTORS & VINTAGE WEEKEND AT

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Author will be at book-signing

A VISITOR centre is holding a book-signing with author Vicki Turrell who will be talking about her nature book.

The author will be at the Oswestry Visitor and Exhibition Centre on Saturday to chat about her book called *Robin On My Tea Cup*.

She will be at the centre from 11am to 1pm.

She will sign copies of her book, which is priced at £3.50, and will be going through the book and explain to people how it came about.

The event is free.

For more information call the centre on (01691) 662753.

### Raiders target industrial estate

RAIDERS targeted premises on Oswestry Industrial Estate.

Police say five premises on the Mile Oak Industrial Estate off Maesbury Road were broken into overnight on Monday.

Businesses discovered the burglaries when staff arrived to open up on Tuesday morning.

Details of the break-ins have not been released and police say their inquiries are ongoing.

### Mayoress stands down from role

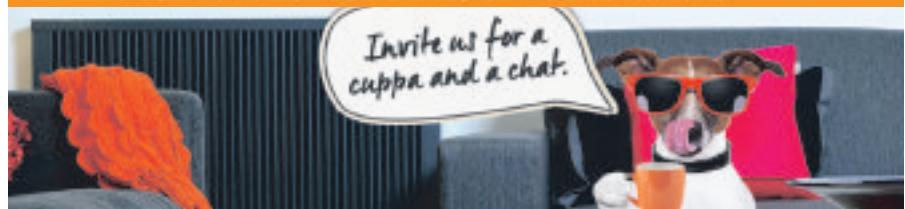
OSWESTRY'S mayoress has stood down just three weeks after taking up the position.

Mayor Sandy Best said her partner Marilyn Taylor had reluctantly decided to stand down as mayoress for medical and mobility reasons.

She said: "The decision is, of course, disappointing so early in my term of office. Whenever possible, Marilyn will still support me but in a less formal role as and when she feels able."

"As has happened in past years I will now, when appropriate, ask some of my fellow councillors to accompany me to events, and also representatives of local organisations and young people. It is an opportunity to bring more people into a civic role that I will encourage."

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Claire Mischewani

# Designer Claire's wedding delight

A DESIGNER has made her name in the fashion industry after dressing a royal at Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's wedding.

Claire Mischewani, owner of a Shrewsbury-based boutique in Wyle Cop, was asked to create a bespoke outfit for Zara Tindall.

The Queen's granddaughter wore a teal coat with embossed navy detailing and navy silk dress. The fabric was handmade especially for her. Ms Mischewani, from Meifod, said: "I was very proud to be chosen by her, out of all of the other designers she could have chosen, for such

a monumental occasion. I've worked with Zara several times before, but to dress her for the royal wedding was a real honour. She looked fabulous."

Zara wasn't the only guest at the royal wedding to have been dressed in a Mischewani dress.

Last year she dressed Princess Beatrice and Lady Gabriella Windsor for Royal Ascot.

Her creations have become popular among the stars since her designs appeared on several 'Best Dressed' lists, and have featured in Vogue, Tatler and Grazia.

# Tragedies 'one reason behind maternity plans'

Report by Dominic Robertson

THE "tragic" history of incidents at Shropshire's midwife-led units is one of the main reasons behind a call for changes to the system, says a leading health official.

Simon Wright, chief executive of Shrewsbury & Telford NHS Trust, was speaking as the organisation confirmed it will meet with NHS England to discuss the future of the units at Oswestry, Ludlow and Bridgnorth.

In recent months there have been a number of temporary closures due to staffing issues.

Mr Wright said that safety is one of the main concerns. "The reality is there are some really tragic outcomes in our history that have occurred in midwife-led units and as a consequence of that I have to make sure if there are safety issues we listen."

Mr Wright said that the concerns related to the fact that the units do not have the equipment or staff to deal with emergencies or problems that may arise during a birth.

He said: "What happens when something goes wrong? Do we have the right level of intervention? Can we get mum and baby to hospital quickly enough?"

Meanwhile, a public consultation on the future of Shropshire's maternity services could still be four months away from launching, a new report has revealed.

A report to Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group's governing body, which was due to meet yesterday (Wednesday) suggests a 12-week consultation could run from October to December.

NHS England must give the go-ahead.

The report says there is a seven stage assurance process and it is difficult to know when the public consultation will be allowed to begin.

### Volunteers plea for charity stall

A WOMAN who has raised hundreds of pounds for an animal charity over the last decade is appealing for helpers.

April Harris from Llanymynech has a charity stall at the Charity Market in Bailey Street, Oswestry tomorrow (Friday).

The charity stall will be raising money in aid of the World Animal Protection organisation.

The fundraiser said she would like volunteers to help man the stall.

"If there is anyone that can give up a few hours of their time I would be grateful," she said.

"I also need help for a street charity collection in the town centre on July 21 and in the indoor market in August, November and December." Anyone who could help her out should ring April on (01691) 672830 or turn up on the day.

### Betty and Eric ploughing on



Eric Morris and Betty Richards from Yorkfields in Oswestry get to work

TWO inspirational pensioners are continuing to garden a patch of land near their homes after taking it off the council's hands.

About four years ago, pensioners Betty Richards and her neighbour Eric Morris decided to take over the responsibility of keeping a patch of land tidy near their homes in Oswestry.

An agreement was made with the council and ever since the pair have been working hard, with Betty, 86, getting the plants, and Eric, who is now 91, carrying out the work.

They were rewarded at last year's Oswestry in Bloom competition for their work.

They have now been busy getting the garden ready ahead of the summer. Betty has paid tribute to Eric for still carrying on with all the work.

She says she supervises the work that is carried out.

She said: "He is fantastic, he's 91 and is still doing all the gardening, and it is looking fantastic ahead of the summer."

"We took it on because it looked awful."

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# Safety work on A483 road hits village businesses hard

Report by Sue Austin

A VILLAGE says it has been forgotten during months of roadworks to improve a nearby trunk road.

Maesbury is, residents say, cut off from the north because of works to install traffic lights on the staggered junction to the A483 on the edge of Oswestry.

Drivers face several miles of diversions or using a small lane which local people say is being ruined by the constant traffic. Mark Baggett and Brent Ellis are the licensees of the

Navigation Inn at Maesbury Marsh and say this has been the third time in 14 years that their business has been affected by either roadworks or flooding.

Meanwhile the owner of a children's nursery that opened just four weeks before the roadworks began said parents were facing half hour delays driving there in the morning.

Mr Ellis said residents were pleased that improvement work was being carried out on the A483 junction but said more thought should have been given to how those living on Maesbury Road could have been helped. "It feels like no one thought about us," he said. "It has been an absolute nightmare for local businesses and for residents since the road was closed in March."

Drivers wanting to reach Oswestry from the village have to either travel south to get on to the A5 or use one of the network of small lanes that emerge further south on the A483 or Chain Lane which joins the A5 at Aston.

Louise Willmore, owner of the Unicorn Nursery, said some parents had postponed enrolling their children until after the roadworks.

"We currently have 30 on role and are expecting a big intake in September," she said.

"I can understand that the improvements were needed and that the junction will be much better in the long run. But I don't see why the Maesbury Road had to be completely closed for the duration of the works."

The Highways Agency said it hoped the work would be finished before the summer holidays. A spokesman said: "We're improving the layout of the junction and installing traffic signals to smooth the flow of traffic, reduce queuing on either side of the A483 and improve safety for both pedestrians and motorists."

However a month before, an announcement was issued by organisers confirming the event had been cancelled due to not being able to meet financial demands because of a lack of ticket sales.

In April, ticket sales company Eventbrite issued refunds to people who purchased tickets through its site, but no one else had received refunds.

Now Mr Melusi has claimed only a small number of people are left requiring refunds. He said: "Everyone will get a refund. There is only a small number of people left to refund and it's just a matter of when. There are processes we have to go through, and other parties are involved.

"I can't confirm when it will be complete but people are getting refunds daily."

One food vendor, David Spence, who paid £340 to sell food at the festival, welcomed the latest news but said he had not seen any of the money he parted with yet.



Brent Ellis and Louise Willmore say the A483 roadworks have hit Maesbury businesses hard

## Plan to build homes rejected

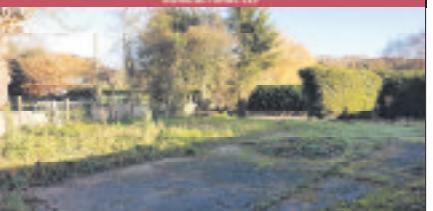
A BID to build 20 homes in a village has been rejected, with community councillors saying there are not enough facilities to accommodate more development.

The plans were submitted to Powys County Council to build 35 homes in Four Crosses. However at a later date the application was reduced to 20. It consisted of eight affordable dwellings and had plans for homes between three bedrooms and five

bedrooms. The application was rejected by Powys county councillors. Planners recommended the application for refusal due to it being outside the development boundary and having insufficient information on various parts of the application.

Llandysilio Community Council objected to the application for a number of reasons, including the local medical practice and schools being full to capacity.

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BREEZE  
ABOUT TOWN

Each year following the annual Mayor's Sunday Parade Welshpool Town Council takes the opportunity to honour local residents for their contributions to the community and this year one young man in particular stood out from the rest. I was privileged to take part in the parade and attend the annual church service followed by the presentations on Sunday when the winter heroics of a young man called Morgan Jones were marked. Young Morgan became a social media sensation during the bouts of heavy snow that brought the town to a standstill twice in the last 12 months. While others stayed safe and warm indoors he jumped on his quad bike and provided vital support to many residents trapped in their homes or stranded by the drifts. His heroics were quickly noted and pictured on Facebook and Twitter channels with residents heaping praise the youngster's way. While all other award recipients were worthy winners there was no doubt for me that this enterprising young man was the real star of the show. In an age when youngsters are often criticised for their behaviour Morgan Jones came up trumps and proved an absolute credit to his family and the town.

If promises made by the new operators of the Wales & Border Train Services are to be believed seven additional trains will run between Shrewsbury and Aberystwyth when KeolisAmey take control. The promise of an additional £800 million on new trains, increasing capacity by two thirds across the region, is a bit too much to swallow for me though and I'll believe it if I live long enough to see it. History tells me that Mid Wales is always the last area to benefit from any improvements. If it happens it will be great news for frustrated rail passengers in the region, who often pay high prices to travel on overcrowded and frankly unsafe trains, with little or no facilities on offer. There's also the promise of new and improved stations along the Mid Wales line which will be good news for those involved in a push for an upgrade at Welshpool where customer numbers have doubled since the introduction of an hourly service. The station is currently a nightmare for the disabled and elderly. The French-Spanish joint venture will take over operations from Arriva Trains Wales for the next 15 years from October, promising 600 new jobs. I'm sure you will join me in saying good riddance to Arriva's out-of-date and creaking stock.



Some of the cars on display at last year's event



One of the trucks which will be on show



Over 1,000 people visited last year's event

WORKING  
FOR YOU

After nearly four months recovering from a broken neck and back following my accident, it has been great to get back to full working life. I want to pay tribute again to my wife, Rose, for her support, and all the staff at the Midland Centre for Spinal Injuries at the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Hospital. The care I received was, without exception, absolutely world-class and – as I said to the Prime Minister in the House of Commons "without their extraordinary skill, professionalism and simple human kindness, I would not be here today."

Fittingly, one of my first events was chairing one of my regular Oswestry Health Group meetings. High on the agenda were the ongoing concerns over the future of maternity provision, but there was welcome news, too. £312 million funding has been confirmed by the Health Secretary for investment in Shropshire's NHS Future Fit plans. This is, perhaps, the biggest state investment in Shropshire in history, and there was unanimous support for "Option 1: The Preferred Option" which, if approved at consultation, would see a huge upgrade in the county's health-care provision.

I also met with heads and principals who voiced their continuing concerns over the unfair distribution of central funds to rural schools despite the Government's new funding formula. Issues like this are exactly why a new Rural Vulnerability Group has been set up in Parliament. I will be raising the points which the schools made at its inaugural meeting. I will also be meeting the children's minister Nadhim Zahawi to make him fully aware of the remarkable work of Derven College. Pupils with additional needs now come to Shropshire from all over the country to learn valuable skills which see them into employment.

I am delighted to be able to thank my office staff on the record for all their hard work in ensuring that we carried on helping constituents efficiently despite my accident.

But being back in Westminster has allowed me to resume meetings. It was great to catch up with Councillor Steve Davenport, along with Daniel Kawczynski MP, for a meeting with the Roads Minister Jesse Norman MP in my office. We had a very constructive discussion on dualing the A5, the proposals for the A483 Pant/Llanymynech bypass and the Shrewsbury North West Relief Road.

Owen Paterson  
North Shropshire MP

# Cruz event drives home the road safety messages

**A road safety event with a difference will be held in Mid Wales. KAREN COMPTON reports**

**MID and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service, along with its road safety partners in Wales, is looking forward to welcoming the public to Cruz Cymru 2018 at the Royal Welsh Showground in Builth Wells on Saturday.**

Following the success of last year's event it will continue to bring together a dedicated focus on road safety within Wales with a host of multi-agency partners alongside a backdrop of both motor vehicle and motorcycle enthusiasts from across Wales and further afield.

Last year the first ever Cruz Cymru event took place and it was a roaring success.

Over 1,000 people visited during the day and there were 200 vehicles from different car clubs across Wales on display.

It attracted off roaders, cruise cars, motorbikes and lorries and organisers said it was great to see everyone mix well together, whilst learning important road safety messages such as the Fatal Five.

These are the five main contributory factors that cause serious road traffic collisions and they include excess or inappropriate speed, failure to wear seatbelts, the driver using a hand-held mobile phone, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs and careless and inconsiderate driving.

This year, road safety partners will be showcasing their road safety work and engaging in conversations with visitors to this event to highlight the measures taken to reduce the number of accidents on our roads and the role that the public can play to achieve this.



There will be static displays from car clubs, motorcycle enthusiasts and much more at this year's Cruz Cymru event in Mid Wales

It will run from 11am until 3pm and entry is free.

Chairman of the Wales Fire & Rescue Service Road Safety Group, Mydrian Harries said: "Following the significant success of last year's young driver engagement event, in the form of Cruz Cymru, it was natural to run it again this year to continue highlighting road safety in Wales."

He added: "As emergency services in Wales, we know only too well the dangers on our roads.

"This event brings together drivers from all age ranges into one location to engage with the Fire and Rescue Service, Welsh Ambulance, police and many more partners against a backdrop

of a car show and widespread road safety messages such as the Fatal Five.

"With over 350 vehicles already booked to attend, as well as it being hosted indoors, we are looking forward to everyone joining us in raising awareness of our work and making our roads safer".

The event will be held indoors at the Royal Welsh Showground with static displays from car clubs, motorcycle enthusiasts and much more.

Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service road safety manager Richard Felton said: "It will be a great opportunity for car and motorcycle enthusiasts to show off their very own pride and joy, with a wide variety of vehicles including rally cars, motorcycles and vintage vehicles."

He added: "There will be live demonstrations by the Fire and Rescue Service and other partners, as well as competitions, information stands, food stalls, a picnic area and dogs are welcome too – all you need for a great day out."

The Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service serves Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion, Swansea, Powys and Neath Port Talbot.

The service covers some 4,500 square miles and makes up almost two thirds of the landmass of Wales. A wide variety of risks are found within the operational area ranging from the petro-chemical industries in Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire and Briton Ferry, Neath, to the risks associated with heavily populated areas such as Swansea, Port Talbot and Llanelli. There is an extensive farming community and many other light industries throughout the area. These, together with an extensive coastline and inland waterways are some of the specialised risks within the Mid and West Wales region.

See the Facebook page Cruz Cymru 2018 for more information.

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**A:** Firstly check what exactly is being leased to you. Check the property description in the lease, that the plan accurately reflects the space being leased, that you are being granted rights of access to the property and that the proposed use of the property is authorised. You should also look at the financial implications of entering into the lease. Will the rent increase over the term? Is VAT payable on top of rent? Is there a service charge, if so is it fixed and what does it include?

Insurance will usually be arranged by the landlord but you may be responsible for paying part or all of the premium should the property become destroyed or damaged and unfit for occupation or use. You should arrange your own contents insurance. You may need to pay Stamp Duty Land Transaction Tax and if the lease is longer than 7 years it will need to be registered with the Land Registry which will incur a fee.

You must be fully aware of and able to comply with your responsibilities and obligations under the lease, including restrictions on use of the property and/or repair obligations. In the case of a new unit, ensure the landlord accepts liability for inherent defects in the construction or design of the building that were not obvious on inspection. Your solicitor can negotiate the terms of the lease with the landlord to exclude liability for inherent defects. He or she can also clarify yours and your landlords' rights regarding renewal terms of the lease.

Further information relating to this question is available from Hannah Fynn, a Solicitor with GHP Legal. For an appointment visit [www.ghplegal.com](http://www.ghplegal.com) or contact one of our offices: Oswestry 01691 659194, Chirk 01691 777949, Wrexham 01978 291456, Llangollen 01978 860313. We offer free legal diagnostic clinics (no appointment necessary). In Oswestry, Wednesdays 12noon-3pm for Personal Injury, Employment & Family matters. In Wrexham, Mondays 9.30am-12noon for Employment matters, 12noon - 3pm for Personal Injury & Family matters. GHP Legal is authorised and regulated by the SRA 51566, and Lexcel Accredited.

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## Letters

# Not easy to recycle as much as we should

AS someone who tries to recycle correctly, and even did the food waste bins, I was defeated when an "expert" was interviewed on TV.

He was asked four direct questions about what you can and can't recycle, and more to the point, why bins or even loads of recycled rubbish end up in landfill.

Can you recycle glass? Yes, but if even a few drops of tomato sauce comes out of the bottle and gets mixed in, that will probably

send the bin/load to landfill, because the material has been contaminated.

Can you recycle envelopes with windows? Yes, if you cut out the windows.

Can you recycle plastic bags? Yes, but only if you recycle the correct plastics.

Can you recycle aerosols? Yes! Hooray, the person disposing of them needs to do nothing.

Surely the time has now come to put items into the appropriate containers and

expect the councils to employ people who know what they are doing to do the finger-tip sorting? Surely their wages would work out cheaper, in cash than the expense, both in cash and damage to the environment?

I'll keep doing my best, but I've really felt tempted to give up and will bin envelopes, rather than hurt my hands cutting out windows.

B A FLOWERS  
Newport

# Call for rethink on decision to extend badger cull programme

WE have consistently refuted claims that the culling of badgers in Shropshire would reduce the incidence of Bovine Tuberculosis in cattle and that the practice should be extended to our area.

There is overwhelming evidence from many researchers and relevant bodies that the practice is not effective in achieving its primary aim. It is in fact a risky, costly and inhumane tool in the fight against Bovine TB and in conflict with the evidence.

For instance, a study by researchers at Queen Mary College, London, involving 1.5million cows, evaluated several methods of controlling Bovine TB. Their results showed that regular testing of cattle was 20 times more effective at halting the spread of the infection than culling badgers. Further evidence comes from Scotland and Wales, where testing of cattle has become more frequent in recent years, the incidence of TB in cattle has declined. In the UK, where testing has not moved to less than once in four years, the incidence continues to grow. More recent evidence about the effectiveness of culling is highly contradictory and inconclusive. We believe this is sufficient cause to halt the culling programme and requires a total re-assessment of the policy. We also call for efforts to improve the vaccination of badgers and the building up of resistance to TB in badgers, for instance, through improved welfare and biosecurity measures for cattle.

We ask that the involved ministers take on board the real evidence produced by independent scientific research and re-examine the decision to implement and then extend badger culling. We are highly concerned that the badger cull is an expensive misuse of taxpayers' monies for short-term political gain.

HILARY WENDT  
South Shropshire Green Party

## Check the facts about UK debt

SINCE World War Two, Tory prime ministers have created national debt 30 per cent faster than Labour PMs.

Recently a MP made a statement about Labour always making national debt.

Well, he should check the facts and, as the Donald says, "stop the fake news".

The Press and Tory politicians always claim that Labour makes all the national debt!

But it is not true.

Since World War Two, we have had 42 years of Tory PMs. Having checked the national debt data, it is clear that over the last 72 years Tory PMs have created national debt 30 per cent faster than Labour PMs.

BILL MCCLEMENTS  
Telford

## Scottish Scenic Explorer

"Big Tree Country" as this area is known, is full of superlatives - home to the world's highest hedge and Europe's oldest tree, tumbling streams and waterfalls, lochs and rivers, all amongst Scotland's best scenery. It is this, along with the unbeatable range of things to see and do that makes Perthshire such a magnet for visitors.

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## Postcard of historic hall is over 100 years old



Welcome to Llanerchydol Hall, Welshpool, as seen in a postcard which was franked on April 17, 1906. The message was: "Dr Sis, Thanks for PC. I have not heard from Let. I should like to know her address myself. I hope you are enjoying yourselves this Easter. We are having lovely weather. With fondest love, N.W. (initials difficult to read)." It was posted to a Miss Hulse, of Hatton Lodge, Hinckley, Market Drayton. Picture courtesy of Sally Anne Richards.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Readers' Letters,  
The Chronicle,  
14 Salop Road,  
Oswestry, SY11 2NU

### EMAIL

iain.stjohn@  
shropshirestar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and **MUST** include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

## Turing should be honoured for his work for Britain

I RECENTLY saw the film The Imitation Game about Alan Turing, a man who undoubtedly shortened the war with the invention that cracked the German Enigma Code, and in so doing must have saved millions of lives.

His genius has enabled us all to have a better future, thanks mainly to "Christopher" which has developed into the modern day computer.

He was years ahead of his time in so many ways.

And he was treated extremely poorly by the authorities of the day.

These days we are more enlightened and would like to think we have better understanding of each other's differing foibles, instead of the cruel way in which Alan was treated.

I believe he should be given some kind of posthumous honour in recognition of all the superb decisions he made, which means we don't live in Germany, as Hitler would have called it.

MARTIN EDDIES  
Shrewsbury

## Council out of its depth on centres

SHROPSHIRE Council is out of its depth regarding the development of the two shopping centres.

They will of course bring in consultants at the taxpayers' expense (99 per cent of consultants' advice is shelved and gathering dust in councils all over the country). This leaves the council to make decisions on retail development, something that are unqualified to do. This vanity will end badly, but it will be the taxpayers of Shropshire who will end up propping up this venture.

PAUL LORD  
Cottingham

## Putin has shown he is the most astute politician

IF anyone from the Remain campaign is still looking for a reason why Brexit is such a good idea, then they need look no further than Mr Jean Claude Juncker's letter to Mr Vladimir Putin "congratulating" him on his election victory.

Not only does this show complete contempt for the values held by the United Kingdom, but shows a complete contempt for the values held by the EU. Ironically, he seems to be blissfully unaware of this.

Finally, at the risk of showing double standards, and also hypocrisy, may I add congratulations to Mr Putin.

Not only has he secured Russia as being the dominant power in the EU (not bad considering it isn't even a member state), he has, and apologies to Mr Trump, secured Russia as being the dominant world superpower!

He has also demonstrated quite clearly he is the most astute politician on the planet!

MR D N GRANT  
Ludlow

He has also demonstrated quite clearly he is the most astute politician on the planet!

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## Date is set for trial over driving

THREE men charged with dangerous driving on moorland roads known as the Evo Triangle will go on trial in August.

It is alleged that the three men, including Alexander Smith, 21, of Llanforda Mead, Oswestry, drove dangerously on the A543 and the B5401 roads skirting Denbighshire and Conwy, which was then recorded and the footage placed on YouTube by one of the defendants.

The film was later seen by a police officer and the defendants were charged. The joint dangerous charge alleges that two BMWs and a Kia car were involved in the incidents on June 17 last year.

Smith, along with Lewis Gething, 22, of Llandore Close, Connah's Quay and Jak Kitchener, 21, of Windermere Drive, Rishton, Blackburn, entered not guilty pleas to the charges in March.

Judge Niclas Parry ruled that the three will go to trial on August 8.

## Stolen fuel tanker found after search

A STOLEN fuel tanker that contained 8,500 litres of diesel has been recovered in North Wales after a police investigation.

The red Bowen and Sons vehicle was parked at the Tan Y Foel Quarry in Cefn Coch, Welshpool when it was taken by thieves some time between Wednesday, May 23 and Thursday, May 24. It contained 4,000 litres of red diesel and 4,500 of white diesel, and Dyfed-Powys Police launched an appeal for information.

After investigating the tanker was recovered in the North Wales Police area on May 25. Now officers are carrying out further investigations to try and identify the suspects who would have been involved in the theft.



Talented students from Derwen College performed for guests and visitors during the annual fete

# There's all the fun of the fete at college

A SPECIALIST college near Oswestry has held another successful annual fete.

Derwen College near Gobowen held the fete on Thursday last week and the annual occasion is always well supported by the community.

Students at the specialist college for those with disabilities and learning difficulties performed their Come Fly with Us summer show during the afternoon and there was also a reunion

Report by Jonny Drury

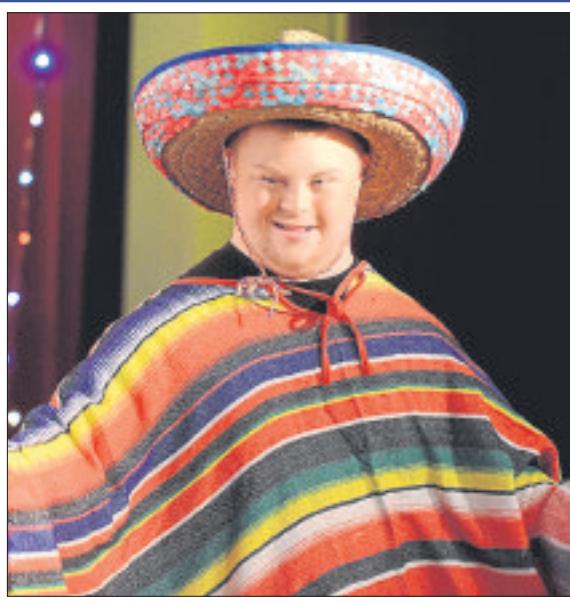
for those who have studied at Derwen. Held during local schools' half-term holidays, the fete had a new location for 2018 and took place in the college's popular shopping and leisure area.

The event was moved to the public zones to offer more opportunity to visit the Orangery Restaurant, Garden Cafe and Derwen Garden Centre.

It also gave visitors the chance to see changes to the garden centre which

now encompasses the college's popular farm shop, creating a one-stop shopping experience. One of the organisers, Laura Griffiths, said she was pleased with the new fete location. She said: "In previous years the fete has been centred around the main college site. We hope that being situated in the busy shopping and leisure area will be more convenient and tempt more families to join in the fun."

Principal Meryl Green said: "The summer fete is always a lovely day out, whatever the weather."



There was plenty of colour and character in the performance



Visitors and guests thoroughly enjoyed the performance at the fete

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**NEWS IN BRIEF****Ramblers on the go again**

THE Welshpool Ramblers walk on Sunday will be from Llanerfyl.

Led by Gwyneth Prosser, it will be a moderate eight-mile circular walk.

Meet at 9am at the Welshpool Tourist Information Centre (OS grid ref. SJ 226 076), from where transport will usually be available. Those wishing to go directly to the starting point should meet at the village hall car park in Llanerfyl (OS grid ref. SJ 034 097) ready for a 9.45am start. The car park is at the entrance to the village when approaching from Welshpool, just after a service station; turn left at a sign for Talerddig and the entrance is immediately on your right.

**Vineyard flying flag in Senedd**

A POLITICIAN has met with a Mid Wales wine producer to showcase Welsh drinks and spirits at the Senedd in Cardiff.

A host of producers from across Wales took part in an organised event for Assembly Members and support staff recently, and in attendance was Woody Lennard, director of Montgomery Vineyard.

Mr Lennard met with Mid and West Wales AM Simon Thomas and a host of other producers, and praised the support of the National Assembly for Wales for helping to grow the industry.

He said: "It was a fantastic event at the impressive Senedd building."

"As a Welsh vineyard, the support of the National Assembly for Wales is key to the success of our growing industry."

# Training provider opens up showground office

Report by Jonny Drury

A WELSH training provider has opened up a new office at the Royal Welsh Showground in Builth Wells.

The Cambrian Training Company, which offers post 16 further education to youngsters, has its headquarters in Welshpool as well as other offices around Wales and has now moved into a new building in the former National Trust Pavilion on the showground.

Part of the deal includes offering the host county the use of the building during Royal Welsh Show week in July.

Managing director Arwyn Watkins said: "Cambrian Training Company is a pan-Wales organisation and we think it's important to continue to develop the good relationships that we already have across the country."

"We are delighted to be in a position to support the host county at the Royal Welsh Show every year."

"It's particularly fitting that the first county to benefit is Montgomeryshire and we look forward to hosting president Tom Tudor and his team during the show."

"Our new office enjoys a prominent position on the showground and is strategically placed in the heart of Wales, which makes it an ideal location to hold meetings and to service our clients."

The company specialises in the delivery of apprenticeships, Jobs Growth Wales opportunities and business training courses.

**Interest in smallholding purchases remains high**

INTEREST in smallholdings across Mid Wales and Shropshire is proving more popular than ever as people are seeking to live sustainably, a property expert has said.

Properties with land from two to 14 acres are in demand around the region, even properties which require renovation to the main residential property.

Rob Hudson, a partner at Morris, Marshall & Poole, with Norman Lloyd said interest is especially in properties where people can grow produce and keep livestock.

Mr Hudson said although buying a smallholding was normally a lifestyle choice, there was often a business reason behind it too.

He said: "Smallholdings have always been a popular investment and lifestyle choice, but with the growing trend to live more sustainably we are seeing more interest from people looking for properties where they can grow produce on a small scale, keep ponies and horses and even raise their own livestock."

"In many cases interest has also been from people seeking to move to a larger property in the country with land to enjoy or that they can let as grass keep or for ponies or other livestock."

"It's generally a lifestyle choice, although with some there is also a business idea behind it and they might want an outbuilding as part of that for an office, studio or workshop."

"With others it's part of a project to renovate a smallholding in need of investment."

## Call made for action over road junction



Arthur Billington hands over the petition to Phyl Davies

A RESIDENT who believes someone will be killed on a road junction has handed a 200-signature petition to a local authority calling for safety measures.

Retired driving instructor Arthur Billington has been fighting for more than two years to have double yellow lines extended at the entrance of the Dol-y-Felin estate.

He has renewed calls for something to be done and now he has earned the backing of local councillors and handed a petition signed by 200 residents to Powys County Council portfolio holder for highways, Councillor Phyl Davies.

Mr Billington said: "Sooner or later someone will be killed. I have seen so many near-misses."

Councillor Davies was handed the petition by a number of residents in Welshpool and he has pledged to raise the issue with highways officers.

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Flash flooding caused disruption to services at Welshpool's hospital



Where do we start? The helpers get to work.



Health bosses are grateful for the help they received after the flooding

# Bosses grateful for flooding help

PEOPLE who stepped in to help after flooding hit Welshpool's hospital have been praised for their efforts.

Thunder and lightning and heavy rainfall hit Welshpool on May 27, causing a culvert in the town to burst.

The flooding caused damage to a number of properties and businesses and Welshpool's Victoria Memorial Hospital.

Water flooded large parts of the hospital, causing the 24 hours minor injuries service to be moved into the midwife-led birthing centre, with expectant mothers being re-directed

**Report by Jonny Drury**

to Newtown or being asked to consider home births.

The Shropdoc GP out-of-hours service was also affected, and was temporarily re-located to the hospital entrance, with renal services, outpatients appointments and x-rays continuing as normal.

Staff and members of the community worked hard to get all services back up and running and Powys Teaching Health Board has paid tribute to people for "going the extra

mile" in the face of the adverse weather. Adrian Osborne, of the health board, said: "We would like to apologise for any inconvenience to patients who were affected by this dreadful weather and its impact on our services.

"We also extend our sincere thanks to our staff, members of the community and local partners who truly went the extra mile over the weekend to ensure the safety and continuity of our services.

"The periods of heavy snow in March showed the astonishing community spirit in Powys. The weekend's flash flooding has once again brought out the best in 'team Powys'.

Thank you to everyone who has given their help and support."

Staff went in on their days off to help clean up, along with other community heroes going above and beyond to help.

One woman volunteered to help on her birthday, and residents of neighbouring properties made efforts to re-direct the water from the hospital.

Tesco supermarket in Welshpool helped with food while the kitchen was affected, and thanks have also been given to the local emergency services and Powys County Council.

Mr Osborne added: "Thank you to everyone

for your support, and for your patience as we get the hospital back to normal."

Businesses in the town were also hit. Staff members at the Corn Store restaurant worked tirelessly to clear water from their premises to allow the premises to reopen. Becky Chapman, who was one of those clearing out the water, said: "We had six of us here at 7.30am clearing out the water, and managed to open in the afternoon. Luckily it wasn't as bad for us as it could have been. A burst culvert did the same back in 2000 and saw water racing through the town, and back then we were shut for two to three weeks."

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## 12 Opportunity to ask questions of top officer

PEOPLE will be able to quiz the Shropshire's chief constable in a ground-breaking live Facebook session.

Questions can be sent to West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion so he can put them to Anthony Bangham, the chief constable of West Mercia, in a session which will be broadcast live on the internet.

Mr Campion said: "It's my role to give communities a voice at the highest level.

"This is something I've been doing throughout my time in office, and by hosting the meetings online through social media, I am building on this to ensure everyone can be more involved in the most open and transparent way."

The commissioner added: "I know that policing matters to our communities, and I would encourage people to get involved online and at the summer events, so that things that are important to you, are listened to and acted upon."

Questions can be submitted in advance, or live via Facebook and Twitter at 10.30am on June 26.

To submit a question send an e-mail to [getinvolved@westmercianpnn.police.uk](mailto:getinvolved@westmercianpnn.police.uk) before 5pm on June 24.

People can also watch the Facebook Livestream (@WestMerciaPCC) and ask a question in the comments.

## New director is appointed to college role

DERWEN College in Gobowen has appointed a new business and finance director.

Andrew Smith has returned to the college after a three-and-a-half year break away from the education sector.

Mr Smith said: "When I saw the appointment advertised I just knew I had to go for it and grab this opportunity to work at Derwen once again. This new role of business and finance director really provides the opportunity for me to utilise my wider skills that I acquired in my previous role and which can now be used and to help drive the college forward alongside members of the leadership team. This is a challenging role in a difficult climate but it is at the same time massively rewarding to be part of a team that helps shape the future of young people with learning difficulties and disabilities."

Mr Smith is already making contacts with local and regional businesses, discussing the many ways that industry partnership working is already benefiting the business sector.

He said: "Derwen College is changing lives and smashing perceptions about young people with learning difficulties and disabilities and their ability to contribute to their own community."

## Appeal to join wild campaign

SHROPSHIRE Wildlife Trust is challenging people to take part in its 30-day wild campaign which runs throughout June.

The charity is asking locals to carry out '30 acts of random wildness' throughout June. The campaign forms part of an annual national event which encourages people to reconnect with the wildlife in their area.

Acts of wildness can include small actions such as smelling the flowers on your way to work or bigger things such cutting down your plastic use.

For more information and to register your interest visit [shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk](http://shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk).

## Vineyard is hosting local art exhibition

A VINEYARD on the Shropshire and Powys border is holding a mixed media art workshop with artist Robert Leckey.

The event on Friday next week is part of Kerry Vale Vineyard's Shropshire Artists exhibition and will feature a selection of original paintings.

Call (01588) 620627 for details.

# Hospital trust reports it is £17 million in red

Report by Lisa O'Brien

THE trust running Shropshire's two main hospitals ended the financial year more than £17 million in the red, it has been revealed.

A report, which was put before a special meeting of the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust board, says the trust in control of Royal Shrewsbury Hospital and Telford's Princess Royal Hospital finished 2017/18 with a deficit of £17.4m.

It said that difficulties employing staff had resulted in a rise in spending on agency staff and an inability to secure the full level of cost-improvement savings planned.

The report from Neil Nisbet, SaTH's finance director, states: "In order to understand the trust's financial sustainability, the trust needs to identify any movements in its underlying fi-

nancial position. The trust had planned to carry forward a recurrent deficit of £12.5m into the 2018/19 financial year, however, will be taking forward a deficit of £20.46m, a movement of £7.96m."

"The recurrent position establishes a £3m reserve to underpin the revenue consequences of the capital development described in the above.

"Clearly there remains much that still needs to be achieved over the coming years and workforce will continue to be a challenge, however, our plans demonstrate that through the continuing commitment and imagination of our staff, the trust can, with confidence, fully expect to

respond successfully to the year ahead." Hospital bosses hope the news of the funding being secured to take the Future Fit programme forward will make it easier to sign up staff.

SaTH recently appointed its first A&E consultant in more than five years and the organisation's chief executive Simon Wright said there had been more interest in the trust's job adverts recently.

In March, the Government confirmed more than £300m of investment for the reconfiguration of the county's two main hospitals, paving the way for a public consultation to begin last week for 14 weeks.

The public consultation will feature two options.

The preferred option, which has been put

forward by Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin clinical commissioning groups, includes basing the county's only emergency department at the RSH.

Under that model, PRH would take on responsibility for providing planned care.

The second option would be for PRH to house Shropshire's emergency department and for RSH to become the planned care site.

Both hospitals would have an urgent care centre.

Public exhibitions giving people the chance to talk to health chiefs and clinicians about the proposals will take place.

Future events will take place in Shrewsbury, Ludlow, Newtown, Bridgnorth, Market Drayton, Wellington and Oswestry.

# MP criticises BBC drama for portrayal of politician

Report by Jonny Drury

A POLITICIAN has added to claims that the portrayal of a former Montgomeryshire MP in the BBC drama *A Very English Scandal* is inaccurate and unfair.

The drama tells the scandalous story of Liberal Democrat party leader Jeremy Thorpe who was the first British politician to be tried for conspiracy to murder and incitement to murder.

Last week it came under fire from former Liberal Democrat MP for Montgomeryshire Lord Alex Carlile, who hit out at the portrayal of another former Liberal MP for the area, Lord Emlyn Hooson. Now the current MP for Montgomeryshire Glyn Davies has also hit out at the programme's creators. The Conservative MP said: "The portrayal of Lord Hooson in 'A Very English Scandal' as a conniving, selfish and rather underhand politician is totally inaccurate, and is certainly not representative of the man I remember and became very good friends with."

"My experience of Lord Hooson, and I am sure of everyone within Montgomeryshire who knew him, is that of an extremely well-liked, talented and respected politician – very much the opposite of how he is portrayed within the programme."

Lord Hooson lived in Llanidloes and served as an MP from 1962 to 1979. He contested the Liberal Party leadership in 1967, however withdrew to the eventual winner who was Mr Thorpe, and the programme explores the contest and the scandal surrounding Mr Thorpe. Mr Davies said the portrayal of Lord Hooson, who died in 2012 at the age of 86, was unfair.

He added: "Undoubtedly the programme makers have used some artistic licence in attempting to paint Jeremy Thorpe in a rather more sympathetic light to how he has been portrayed in the past, but it seems very unfair that this comes at the cost of a true representation of the late Lord Hooson who was an MP who fought so hard to protect the interests of Montgomeryshire, and to champion the constituency across the UK."

A BBC spokeswoman said the writer of the show based his scripts on John Preston's book of the same name along with additional research, and added the BBC follows strict guidelines to deliver a programme that presents a fair portrayal of events.

## Staff wear pyjamas to spread mobility message



Patient Stephen Morris is surrounded by Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital staff who wore their pyjamas to work

STAFF at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital donned their pyjamas to work to encourage patients to get up, get dressed and keep moving.

Nurses, healthcare assistants and other staff wore their pyjamas to work to raise awareness of the #EndPJparalysis social media campaign.

The idea behind End PJ Paralysis is to support patients to get up, dressed and moving to prevent deconditioning, which is when patients quickly lose physical function and the ability to do everyday activities.

Research shows that for an older person, a loss of muscle strength and exercise tolerance can make the difference between dependence and independence.

Every 10 days of bed-rest in hospital is the equivalent of 10 years of muscle ageing for elderly patients.

It's also been proven that getting patients out of bed and mobile when appropriate can reduce the length of time they spend in hospital.

The campaign started on Twitter by Professor Brian Dolan and has spread across the UK and internationally.

It is now backed by a number of notable NHS figures such as Professor Jane Cummings, chief nursing officer for NHS England.

Rachael Flood, Baschurch Day Unit manager, said: "Lots of staff on Baschurch Day Unit wore their pyjamas to work during their

shift, which prompted conversations about End PJ Paralysis with our patients and raised the campaign's profile. Once a patient returns to the unit after their operation, they get dressed straight away but our message was also to those patients destined for the inpatient wards, explaining how getting dressed and out of bed can help prevent loss of strength and reduced mobility. This campaign is very important and I'm proud that we are able to work with our patients and support them in being independent when they return home."

Bev Tabernacle, director of nursing, said: "We wanted to highlight the campaign and our involvement in a fun and eye-catching way."

## Growing travel firm looking for 20 new apprentices

THE UK'S fastest growing independent travel firm which has a branch in Oswestry has launched a major recruitment drive to find 20 new apprentices.

Hays Travel North West, which has a store in Cross Street, Oswestry, and 28 other branches across North Wales and the North West, is looking for the next generation of travel industry high fliers. The firm's bosses started a comprehensive apprentice scheme three years ago and it has been so successful that they are looking again for a new wave of fresh intakes.

Lindsey Barber, retail director for Hays Travel North West, said: "We are keen to support a new wave of young people from the areas local to our branches and help them set off on a new and exciting travel career path."

"Seeing young people, from the communities we serve, flourish in our business and go from scratch to management positions within the stores has been very rewarding both personally and for the business."

"We are excited to welcome a new wave of candidates passionate about a career in travel.

"I started in the industry myself as an apprentice aged 16 and it is a fantastic career."

"It would be a great opportunity for a young person with an interest in travel because you do have to have an enthusiasm for the industry in order to be successful with us."

"It has the potential to provide a guaranteed job and career with great prospects and they will also get the chance to travel to different parts of the world."

"It is important to the personalised service we provide that our teams have first-hand

knowledge of many of the holidays we offer so they can help our customers find the right holiday."

"Our apprentices are no exception and so there will be opportunities for them to explore the world."

Applicants do not need any previous experience in the travel trade. They will first be required to fill in an application form and if successful, will be called forward for a one-to-one interview before a final decision is made.

For more information call 0800 2155045.

# Canal enthusiasts keen to spread restoration message

TWO canal enthusiasts are setting off on their boat to take the latest appeal for a restoration project to a rally and canal festival.

Chris Bushnell and Maggie Ellis will be heading to the Braunston Historic Narrowboat Rally and Canal Festival on June 23 and 24 to highlight the latest appeal regarding the Montgomery Canal Restoration Project.

The project has been ongoing for years and is continuing with volunteers and contractors linking the canal all the way from Shropshire into Mid Wales.

## Report by Jonny Drury

The pair are excited about the event, and along their route, which will take them through Wolverhampton, Birmingham and Warwick, they will be raising the profile and appealing for funds to re-build the last blocked bridge in Shropshire on the Montgomery Canal. Mr Bushnell said: "Braunston Rally is one of the highlights of the boaters' year and it will be hugely exciting to take part. We are told there could be over 80 historic canal boats there and the daily

parade through Braunston must be one of the most colourful events on our canal system. Our boat Ictus is not as old as some of the craft we shall see at Braunston, but it is about 30 years old and built in the style of an Edwardian steam launch with a copy of a 19th century steam plant. The whistle is from a GWR steam locomotive which often confuses boaters on the canal.

"We expect our trip to the heart of the waterway network from the limit of navigation on the Montgomery Canal to take about two weeks."



The steam launch Ictus at The Navigation Inn at Maesbury Marsh near Oswestry

## More people helping out on waterways

A RECORD number of volunteers are helping to care for the 186 miles of canals and rivers in Shropshire, North Wales and Cheshire.

Over the past 12 months volunteers gave 47,036 hours to help the Canal & River Trust make waterways cleaner, greener and more welcoming – an increase of 10 per cent.

Publishing research showing how spending time by your local canal or river leads to a healthier and happier life the trust has urged even more people to get involved.

Ani Sutton from the trust said: "With ever increasing rates of obesity, diabetes and other debilitating conditions and rising levels of stress, anxiety and other mental health conditions in the UK, waterways are uniquely placed to improve the wellbeing of the millions of people who live within easy reach of canals or rivers."

A report commissioned by the trust says the benefits of visiting a canal or river increase with the length of visit, with research showing higher levels of happiness and lower levels of anxiety for longer trips. It says any visit to a waterway is associated with higher levels of life satisfaction and the more often people visit the more satisfied they are with their lives.

Towpath visitors questioned said they were "great places to relax and de-stress".

Ani added: "Our local waterways have seen unprecedented support over the past year and we couldn't be more grateful. Whilst making a massive contribution to their local community these volunteers also tell us that they really value the health and wellbeing benefits of being active and spending time by water."

## Young farmers in cycle challenge

A GROUP of 22 young farmers are set to take on a 600-mile cycle ride across Wales to raise £5,000 for two good causes.

OWAIN Roberts, chairman of the Alberbury Young Farmers Club, is heading up the team that will cycle from the Shropshire village to Colwyn Bay on June 23.

That is just the first leg as the following days will see them ride through Pwllheli, Borth, St Davids, Swansea and Brecon, before returning home to Alberbury on June 29.

The participants have been training hard for the race, which will see them ride in aid of the Birming-

ham Children's Hospital and Breast Cancer Now, with over £1,000 of the target already raised.

Twice a week the riders have been cycling 30 miles a week, with longer 50 and 70 mile rides coming up this weekend in preparation for the tough challenge.

Mr Roberts said: "Young Farmers throughout the UK regularly embark on raising funds for charity and we're proud to be setting ourselves the challenge of not only the 'Tour de Wales' but raising at least £5,000 for our chosen charities."

To donate go to [justgiving.com/crowdfunding/alberburyycfcourdewales2018](http://justgiving.com/crowdfunding/alberburyycfcourdewales2018)

## Masts' funding boost

WELSHPOOL is set to benefit financially from phone masts being installed on its town hall.

Currently work is ongoing to install four mobile phone masts on Welshpool Town Hall, with scaffolding currently up around the building.

A spokesman for the council has said it could potentially generate thousands of pounds for the council.



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# 14 Businesses get £295k fines for illegal workers

WEST Midlands businesses were fined £295,000 between April and June last year for employing illegal workers, new figures have shown.

Despite this a survey by online vetting and screening company uCheck found that a third of British business owners still feel empathetic toward people working illegally in the UK.

The survey took in 2,800 business owners to get their honest opinion.

And 22.1 per cent of those business owners asked said that immigrants are "just trying to earn a living", while 11 per cent felt that the illegal workers "deserve the right to work".

The study found that those in the charity sector were the most compassionate toward illegal workers, though only just over half - 52.4 per cent - felt empathy for those trying to earn a living illegally.

The legal industry also took a similar stance, with 47.4 per cent of those working in the industry feeling empathetic toward illegal workers.

uCheck found UK businesses had to fork out £4.02 million to the Home Office in fines between April and June 2017 for employing illegal immigrants in the UK.

In the West Midlands the most fines - £85,000 - fell on business owners in Birmingham.

## Three new shows to make their debuts

THEATR Clwyd in Mold is hosting Roundabout, the world's first pop-up and play theatre, with three world premiere shows.

Paines Plough's Roundabout, launched in 2014, is the world's first pop-up, plug and play theatre. The only tool needed to assemble Roundabout is an Allen key and the theatre takes six people around one day to pop it up and plug it in. The theatre is completely self-contained, with seating for 168 people, state of the art lighting and surround sound.

It begins its 2018 tour at Theatr Clwyd in June prior to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August and further dates throughout the UK in the Autumn.

At Theatr Clwyd, Roundabout will stage three world premieres, all Theatr Clwyd and Paines Plough co-productions, from playwrights Georgia Christou, Vinay Patel and Simon Longman.

How to spot an Alien will run until June 25 and tells the story of 12-year-old Jelly and her brother Jondo who have their suspicions their aunt is an alien.

Sticks and Stone, from June 19-29 is a satire about the search for a sure footing in an uncertain word and a journey into the night when a misfiring joke turns a life upside down.

Island Town by Simon Longman on stage from June 20-30 tells the story of Kate, Sam and Pete stuck in a town that doesn't have much going on.

More details are available from [theatrclwyd.com](http://theatrclwyd.com).

## Council has new chief executive

A LOCAL authority on the Shropshire and Wales border has appointed a new chief executive.

At a full council meeting councillors at Wrexham Council appointed Ian Bancroft to the role.

Mr Bancroft will begin his post as chief executive in August.

For the past 14 years Mr Bancroft has worked in leadership roles in organisations in Manchester, Merseyside and North East Wales.

Since 2014 Mr Bancroft has been the chief officer at neighbouring Flintshire County Council.

Mr Bancroft, who is a Wrexham resident, said: "I am really excited about the new opportunities I have here at Wrexham."

"It's my local council, and while I know there will be challenges to come, I relish the prospect of working with everyone here for the benefit of everyone in Wrexham."

Mr Bancroft added: "As a committed public servant with more than 25 years' experience, I know I've a lot to bring to the role and I'm ready to face the challenges the role might bring."

# Court is told how spectator was fatally injured at downhill mountain bike race

A WOMAN spectator died after being struck by a mountain biker when he flew off his bike, a jury heard.

The tragedy during a mountain bike downhill race near Llangollen was "entirely avoidable", the prosecution alleged at Mold Crown Court.

British Cycling Federation - the sport's governing body - denies that on August 31, 2014, it failed to ensure spectators including Judith Garrett, 29, who died in hospital, were not exposed to risk.

Organiser Michael Marsden, 40, of Lancaster, pleads not guilty to failing to conduct the event in a manner in which spectators weren't exposed to risks. He also denies failing to make a sufficient risk assessment. The prosecution claimed the event was "poorly run".

**Report by David Briggs**

Kevin Duckworth, 41, of Accrington, Lancashire, allegedly a race marshal who was snoozing on a crash mat, denies failing to take reasonable care to ensure the health and safety of people at the event. Opening the case on Monday, prosecutor QC James Hill told the jury the tragedy happened during a bank holiday weekend on a 2km farm course considered one of the most challenging in Britain with steep, fast stretches.

The part of the course where the tragedy occurred had three jumps and riders could reach up to 30mph. Mr Hill said on taking the first jump, riders had to turn right to avoid a large

tree. A large crash mat had been attached to the tree.

"Unfortunately the area on either side of the tree hadn't been recognised as a hazardous area," Mr Hill said. "That's a matter that ought to have been borne in mind when risk assessments were considered."

"There had been no thought at all to spectator safety either by Mr Marsden or British Cycling."

The QC said Miss Garrett, of north east England, a laboratory quality control officer, had been at the event with her boyfriend who was a competitor and walked up to the area of the three jumps.

Duckworth was allegedly snoozing next to a stile. "We don't blame Mr Duckworth for

causing the accident," the QC explained. But he remarked: "Perhaps his snoozing was sympathetic of the way this event was being run."

Mr Hill said biker Andrew Cody, an experienced rider, hit the first jump but lost control. "Both he and the bike were still travelling at great speed. He flew head first into Miss Garrett."

She was knocked backwards and her head apparently hit a tree, fracturing her skull and causing a "devastating" brain injury.

Mr Hill said Marsden claimed he did nothing wrong and it was "simply people being wise after the event". British Cycling maintained the event was under the jurisdiction of Welsh Cycling.

The trial continues.

# Councillor confident that care services will improve

**Report by Jonny Drury**

A COUNCILLOR is confident that previously failing adult social care and children services in Powys will improve.

A report last year provided a damning verdict on Powys County Council's children's services, with the authority pledging millions to put things right after Care Inspectorate Wales found children were put at a serious risk of harm.

The council has also promised to spend millions to put right failures in adult social care services, after a further report found substantial improvements were needed.

The cabinet recently discussed a final improvement plan for the service, which has been submitted to the inspectorate.

Welshpool county councillor Graham Breeze says he is confident improvement across the services will happen.

## Benchmark

He visited staff on the front line of children's services in Welshpool, and believes the workers have set a benchmark for the rest of the county.

He said: "Obviously the council are continuing to put things right and the adult social care report was not as bad as the report was into children's services.

"Myself and Councillor Amanda Jenner from Trewern spent time with children's services staff in Welshpool, and the work they are doing to put things right has been great.

"They should be a benchmark for the rest of the county, and if other areas are the county are like this then things will continue to improve.

"With adult social care, things have been put in place in terms of more staff and investment.

"The investment will affect other areas of the council, but this is something that is essential and has to go top of the list."

The cabinet has discussed final recommendations for the improvement plan for adult social care which has now been submitted to the inspectorate.

The plan includes calls from the Care Inspectorate Wales for senior leaders to provide "strong political and corporate support" for the services, to ensure that improvements are prioritised and sustained with pace.

When submitted, the inspectorate will monitor the plan during planned inspections and performance reviews throughout 2018 and 2019.

## March on Parliament for pro-Europeans



Steve Boyd, Heather Bridgland, David Towers, Clive Geary and Jayne Middleton show their colours in Oswestry ahead of the march. PRO-EUROPEAN campaigners from Shropshire will travel to London to take part in a march on Parliament.

The People's March in the capital on June 23 is calling for the people - not just politicians - to have a vote on the final Brexit deal.

Two Shropshire groups are planning to attend the march, one from Oswestry and North Shropshire, and from Shrewsbury.

Founder member, Jayne Middleton, said the

Oswestry and North Shropshire branch of the European Movement fully supported a People's Vote.

She said: "Most of the members will be going down to London on June 23 to march with the thousands of others expected to attend."

She said many people remain concerned about what Brexit means for families and communities across the UK.

She said: "There will be no extra money for

public services like our NHS, no new trade deals and the possibility of losing the ones we already have. We risk the return of a hard border in Ireland and putting the Good Friday Agreement at risk and a complicated and messy split from our friends and partners in Europe, will put British jobs and prosperity at risk. The referendum was flawed as it simply asked people to vote leave or remain without the facts about what would really happen."

# Crews were called to free 10 children from cars last year

FIREFIGHTERS had to rescue children who were locked in cars 10 times across Shropshire last year, new figures have revealed.

Crews were called to rescue children in cars in the hottest summer months once in the Telford area and twice in south Shropshire last year, a Freedom of Information request to Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service has revealed.

Firefighters from Telford stations were called to free children trapped in cars five times in total last year, while crews in Shrewsbury were

called to free a child once. Crews based in Much Wenlock and Bishop's Castle were called to free children from cars four times last year in total.

Now, as the warmer weather is due to arrive, Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service has warned drivers against leaving children and animals in cars.

Malcolm Stephenson, spokesman for Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service, said: "We all know what can happen when children and animals are left in vehicles.

"Children in particular should never be left

alone in a vehicle. Dogs and other pets cannot call for help if they get distressed.

"If you have no choice but to leave an animal in the car then make sure there is enough ventilation and water for them to drink.

"We just ask people to use their common sense, really."

No incidents where Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service was called to free animals from vehicles were recorded last year.

The RSPCA said people should not be afraid to dial 999 if they see a dog in a car on a warm

day as when it is 22 degrees, in a car it can reach 47 degrees within the hour.

The health of the animal in the car should first be established, such as if they are displaying signs of heatstroke.

Then, if the dog is not displaying signs of heatstroke, make a note of the car's registration number. If people are at a shop, venue or event they are advised to ask the staff to make an announcement to alert the owner of the situation. People can also call the RSPCA's 24-hour cruelty line for advice on 0300 1234 999.

## Unit passed as farms look to diversify

FARMERS in Mid Wales and Shropshire are continuing to diversify as another application to build a free range poultry unit to house 32,000 chickens at a farm has been passed.

Powys County Council's planning committee accepted proposals from Fiona Jerman, to build the unit on land at Trefeglwys, near Caersws, to add to a 32,000 chicken unit that already sits on the site.

The application was seeking full consent to build the new unit along with two external feeds bins, and would see the farm double its operation.

The planning documents presented at the meeting of the planning committee heard from a range of different parties.

Natural Resources Wales expressed concern with the development, and insisted permission only be granted if requirements such as a site drainage plan, a manure contingency plan and a pollution prevention plan were drawn up. A site notice was put up on the farm gates, prompting a response from The Ramblers Association, which said there would need to be a new path put in as the development would obstruct a right of way.

One condition proposed by planners is to for a diversion to be put in place through a separate legal process.

In other responses, a letter of support was submitted by Lloyds Animal Feeds, highlighting the importance of farmers being able to diversify and adapt to producing foods that meet the ever changing requirements.

The application was recommended for conditional consent before being passed by councillors. It becomes one in a long line of applications in Powys in recent years from farmers looking to diversify.

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# Bedroom Browser is set to boost tourism

By Karen Compton

TOURISTS staying at accommodation across Mid and West Coast Wales now have a new information-packed companion to keep them company.

MWT Cymru, the independent company representing around 600 tourism and hospitality businesses across the region, has launched its 2018/19 Bedroom Browser.

Members of MWT Cymru receive free copies of the popular publication to put in their bedrooms. Packed with information about things to see and do while visiting Mid Wales, the Bedroom Browser features 49 visitor attractions, activity providers and towns.

The publication is available in hotel rooms, guest houses, bed and breakfast, self-catering and caravan accommodation. It contains useful information about a huge range of attractions, activities and places to visit in Ceredigion, Powys, Meirionnydd and the Welsh Marches. The Bedroom Browser has detailed information about everything from adrenalin pumping activities, national trails for walkers and spectacular wildlife and nature attractions to narrow gauge railways, arts and craft centres and heritage and family attractions.

"Having received an excellent response from advertisers this year, we are delighted with the finished product, which I am sure is going to be very popular with guests staying in accommodation across Mid Wales," said MWT's chief executive Val Hawkins.

## Grassland event hailed a success



Various trade stands were set up at the Royal Welsh Grassland Event at Four Crosses and a competition was held to give a prize to the best trade stand at the event

FARMERS flocked to the annual Royal Welsh Grassland Event held at Carnbwl at Four Crosses between Welshpool and Oswestry.

During the official opening president Tom Tudor expressed his gratitude to the host Martin Evans for ensuring the site was in an excellent condition in what has been very difficult and wet season.

Visitors were able to browse over 80 tradestands as well as enjoy 100 acres of working demonstrations, including the latest muckspreading techniques, in one of the most productive areas of Wales.

The trial plots, working demonstrations and comprehensive seminar programme reflected the diverse and distinctive nature of Montgomeryshire, appealing to a wide range of visitors.

Event chairman Dafydd Jones said: "Grassland is a very important feature of Montgomeryshire, for sheep, beef and dairy."

"We were very fortunate to be able to host this event at Carnbwl, Four Crosses, and to show the very best techniques on this progressive farm."

"The county is very diverse, ranging from the Welsh speaking uplands in the west, which is mainly beef and sheep farming, to the lowlands."

The lowlands are very productive and progressive, with dairy farming, arable, biomass and poultry."

## Vineyard is hoping to seal top place

A VINEYARD has been nominated as one of the most popular in the UK and is appealing for votes to be crowned the overall winner for 2018.

The Kerry Vale Vineyard, on the Powys and Shropshire border, was chosen by the HolidayLettings.co.uk as one of the final 10 competitors in the running to be named the top vineyard for 2018.

Voting ends on Sunday with the winner being crowned the following day, and owner of the vineyard June Ferguson is trying to drum up support.

She admitted the business is grateful to everyone who has voted to get it in the top 10, and said it would be amazing to win overall crown.

She said: "We are thrilled to be in the top 10 UK's Most Popular Vineyards and we'd like to thank everyone for who's taken the time to vote for us."

"There is no greater seal of approval than being recognised by our customers. Most of the other vineyards in the competition are much larger and have been established for a much greater time than us, so to win would be amazing."

"If you've visited and enjoyed your experience with us, we would urge you to vote for us - and feel free to encourage others to do the same."

## Centre is a champion

THE Buy From Shropshire project has named the British Ironwork Centre near Oswestry as one of its champions.

Shropshire producers which are part of the scheme are being given the opportunity to set up a pop-up stall at the centre, enabling visitors to experience and understand what's available.

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FARMERS under the age of 40 in Wales have until Tuesday to take advantage of the Welsh Government's £6 million funding package available to help them develop their businesses.

The grant will provide £40,000 to 150 farmers as part of a Young People into Agriculture Scheme.

"Applications must be under the age of 40 years old on April 1, 2018 and must be looking to establish a new business or develop an existing one," explained Kathryn Williams of Davis Meade Property Consultants.

"The funding can be used as working capital and will be paid to successful applicants in three instalments up to March 31, 2020."

Applicants must be able to show that they have the skills to be self-motivated to drive their businesses forward and also have a keen interest in the wider agricultural industry. As a part of the funding agreement applicants will also have to meet key performance indicators that will be agreed as part of their contract.

For more information on the funding people can contact Kathryn Williams or Sarah Wedge at the Oswestry office of Davis Meade Property Consultants on (01691) 659658 or email [kathrynwilliams@dmpcuk.com](mailto:kathrynwilliams@dmpcuk.com) or [sarahwedge@dmpcuk.com](mailto:sarahwedge@dmpcuk.com)

## Fears voiced over state of grass verges

OVERGROWN verges on a busy roundabout near Oswestry could lead to a crash, motorists say.

Drivers from Chirk say negotiating the Gledrid Roundabout, which carries two trunk roads, the A5 and A483, has been made hazardous by the long grass obstructing the view of the carriageway. Several people in Chirk have called on local councillors to act to get the grass mown. But although the nearest town is in Wales, the roundabout is in England.

One man has even taken to social media to say he is prepared to cut the verges himself. Scott James said the roundabout was redesigned in recent years to ease traffic and avoid congestion but said the lack of maintenance and the long grass on the exits meant there were a lot of near misses.

In a message to Highways England he wrote: "If you have not got time or manpower, give me a shout and supply a lawn mower and petrol and I will cut it myself."

Sharon Hurdman has to use the roundabout twice a day to get to work. "The verges really are awful at the moment. You have to edge out into the road to see if there is anything coming and traffic goes so fast around the island," she said. "The Chirk bypass is dangerous enough at the best of times. There are enough accidents on the road, we don't want any more because we can't get someone to cut the grass."

Highways England was not available for comment.

## Bathing venues to be monitored

NATURAL Resources Wales teams are busy monitoring water in bathing areas across the country ahead of a busy summer season.

Between now and the end of September each of the 104 bathing areas in Wales will be sampled between six and 16 times, to make sure the water is clean and healthy for people to use.

Melissa Broad, water quality adviser for NRW said: "Welsh bathing waters are considered to be among the best in Europe and we work hard with communities, Dwr Cymru Welsh Water and local authorities to ensure these much-loved areas maintain the highest water quality standards."

"This year we will be taking a risk-based approach to carry out bespoke sampling, the number of samples will be based on the risk to water quality."

"Every bathing water will be sampled at least six times and those deemed at most risk will be sampled up to 16 times which will give us a good understanding of water quality."

The samples are analysed in NRW's specialist laboratory.

# Motorists warned to expect disruption as council gets ready to carry out works on roads

SHROPSHIRE Council will be carrying out improvement works to a number of roads in the county this summer.

Road surface dressing work is due to start on June 22 and will continue until the end of August.

Surface dressing, which is the application and rolling of aggregate chippings onto a bituminous binder, is, according to the council, a quick, efficient and cost-effective way of maintaining skid-resistance and waterproofing road surfaces.

It forms a major part of the council's annual road maintenance programme and – along with resurfacing – plays an important part in preventing potholes forming on the county's roads.

In total 61 sites have been identified for

**Report by Lucy Todman**

treatment across the county on all types of road, from urban cul-de-sacs to major A and B roads.

Due to the limited width of some roads, over 43 per cent of the sites will require a temporary road closure for the works to be carried out safely.

### Management

Where road closures are not necessary, other forms of temporary traffic management will be in place, including signals with convoy working where appropriate.

On cul-de-sacs limited access will be available.

For the majority of A and B roads – currently 20 separate sites – centre line studs/cat's eyes also need to be removed and replaced under a temporary closure.

It's anticipated that stud removal will take place overnight, followed by dressing and sweeping operations during the following couple of days.

The replacement of studs and road markings on some sites may take place up to 10 days later.

The roads will be closed from 9pm to 6am.

Steve Davenport, Shropshire Council's cabinet member for highways and transport, said: "As well as improving and protecting our road surfaces, this important programme of work plays a crucial role in helping to prevent potholes and other defects forming in the future. Pothole treatment is very much about prevention as well as cure and this is one important way that we can aim to prevent potholes forming next winter."

"In reality, most of the closures will only be required for a few hours for the dressing operation, and we don't envisage most being more than one day."

The programme of work may alter due to wet weather or other unforeseen events. Information letters will be delivered to affected residents and businesses, and advance information signs will be on site at least 10 days prior to the due start date. Shropshire Council is spending around £6 million this year on resurfacing and surface dressing the county's roads.

# War commemorations to have various floral touches

**Report by Sue Austin**

OSWESTRY is set to become a sea of poppies and other flowers in the lead-up to commemorations for the end of World War One.

Organisations and members of the community are being urged to get involved in this year's Oswestry Makes festival to create thousands of poppies.

It is hoped the flowers will remain in place for the forthcoming Wilfred Owen event in the town – the place of the war poet's birth.

There will be workshops, a mass daisy chain day and other events throughout the summer, from people of all ages.

The event is being organised by the town's library and it is hoped that schools, streets and even trees will be adorned with handmade flowers.

Debbie Marais from the library said: "Across Oswestry and surrounding villages, makers are creating flowers of peace and remembrance ready to adorn the town leading up to the Wilfred Owen festival and other remembrance activities in November 2018."

### Encouraging

"Oswestry Makes are encouraging everyone to decorate their school, church, business, home, favourite tree and street with flowers made of anything you choose."

"You might even enter a piece into one of the exhibitions at Oswestry Library or the Qube."

One of the main events is a bid to make long, knitted daisy chains in Cae Glas Park in Oswestry on Saturday. The event from 11am to 3pm coincides with World Knit in Public Day.

Debbie said that if people were stuck for ideas, there are workshops being held at the library, Qube, Willow Gallery and some of the many other creative outlets in town. For more information, visit the website [oswestrymakes.wordpress.com](http://oswestrymakes.wordpress.com).

She said: "There is also information about places to learn, patterns, events and more. Oswestry Makes are also holding a craft book book sale at Oswestry Library throughout June, so if you have craft books you wish to return or are looking for inspiration come along to the library. The money raised will help to fund free workshops in lots of community venues around the town."

Upcoming events in the library include felting, crocheting and knitting flowers.

A Beautiful Botanical knits workshop takes place on June 23.

**Artistic Phoebe enjoys peace poster success**



Teresa Nickson, District Lions Club governor, Maureen Ross, of the Oswestry Lions Club, Phoebe Shaw, Alison Pearson and Bill Bowen

PHOEBE Shaw, a Year 8 pupil at the Marches School in Oswestry, has reached the national final of a peace poster competition organised by the Lions Club.

It is an especially memorable year for the Lions Club as it is celebrating its centenary year, having been formed in 1917/18 by Melvin Jones in Chicago.

Phoebe, whose tiger and deer drawing wowed the judges, has previously beaten off competition in the Oswestry stage and then the regional stage to reach the national finals.

With this, having won £25 in book vouchers for the Oswestry stage, she has now won £75 in book vouchers for winning the regional stage of the competition, as well as a £75 book voucher for the Marches School.

By winning the regional section of the competition, Phoebe defeated competition from Staffordshire, Shropshire, Cheshire and North Wales in the peace poster competition which has been running for 31 years, and is the first Oswestry entry to reach the national finals.

Alison Pearson, headteacher of the Marches School, commented: "We are so very proud of Phoebe and her accomplishments in this competition."

Bill Bowen, of the Oswestry branch of the Lions Club, added: "Phoebe has done exceptionally well to get to this stage."

# Blue badge holders may have to pay towards parking

PLANS to charge disabled blue badge holders to park in a bid to save a cash-strapped council £100,000 could have a devastating effect, it has been warned.

Powys County Council, which has made significant cuts in recent years, is trying to save £5 million in the next financial year.

As part of that, the council is consulting on plans to charge disabled blue badge holders to park in council-run pay and display car parks.

The move has been criticised by a number of councillors, including Welshpool town and

county councillor Phil Pritchard, who described the move as an attack on vulnerable people.

He called for the council to save money elsewhere and said: "It is a pathetic move, and it will have devastating effects on so many people. To penny pinch like this is not on, there are so many other areas of the council where there is waste and money could be saved. This could lead to people not being able to get out to shop, and cause major problems. It is totally wrong and not what the electorate of Powys would want to see."

The consultation is running until July 2 and includes four proposals, which could see badge holders have to pay the same price as others.

Other options include charging blue badge holders but giving them an extra hour to shop, making blue badge holders who park in normal spaces pay a full price, or to do nothing.

Cabinet member for highways Councillor Phyl Davies admitted it would be a difficult decision, but savings needed to be made.

Councillor Davies said: "This is a very difficult time for the council and difficult decisions

have to be made. We fully recognise that blue badge holders do have mobility issues and need extra time to park and shop.

"Our preferred option is that a blue badge holder pays towards parking, but they will get extra time for free."

"So, if a blue badge holder pays for two hours, they would actually get three hours parking in total."

People can comment on the proposals by visiting [powys.gov.uk/haveyoursay](http://powys.gov.uk/haveyoursay) and respond online.

# Tackling rural crime high on police's priority list

TACKLING rural crime is a priority for Dyfed-Powys police, bosses have said.

Members of the Dyfed-Powys Police Rural Crime group met to discuss issues affecting farmers in the force area recently after a strategy to combat the problem was launched by its Police and Crime Commissioner Dafydd Llewellyn.

National Farmers' Union Cymru member Garry Williams, who was instrumental in the setting up of the Rural Crime Strategy group, said: "It really is going to be a working partner-

ship with the police; crime commissioner and stakeholders, and the meeting was extremely productive.

"We shared ideas and gave the police officers involved hints and tips on what to look for when it comes to rural crime so that if they see someone moving sheep, for example, they know what questions to ask to make sure it is legitimate.

"Rural crime is something I feel very strongly about and so I am extremely pleased to be able to be part of this strategy group.

"The threat of rural crime can be very distressing to farmers but I feel we now have the resources to step up the fight and prevent thefts from happening on farms."

Superintendent Robyn Mason, Dyfed-Powys Police's lead for rural crime, said: "Tackling rural crime is a priority for the force, and these meetings are just one of the ways we are working with partner agencies to ensure we are doing all we can to keep our remote and rural communities' safe."

"Earlier this year we held a strategic meeting

at the Dyfed-Powys Police headquarters, and we have had divisional meetings in other parts of the force area. These will be regular meetings where we can discuss new ideas and ways of moving forward.

"As well as these meetings, as outlined in the Rural Crime Strategy, we are investing resources into policing rural crime.

"The first of our divisional crime teams will be attached to North Wales Police for training from Monday, with the other three divisions being rolled out in turn."

## Golden chance for success!



Megan-Hollie Robertson won last year's competition at the Eisteddfod

TALENT from across the globe is gearing up to fight for the chance to tread the boards in Australia's Gold Coast – at an international musical festival near Oswestry.

The Gold Coast's partnership with the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod is in its third year and is designed to celebrate musical talent from across the globe.

With the Gold Coast Eisteddfod featuring over 70,000 singers and dancers, 330 bands and orchestras, 175 choirs, almost 1,500 dance groups and over 3,000 solo dancers, this year's Llangollen Eisteddfod hopefuls will be hoping to get the opportunity to showcase their talent in Australia.

The Llangollen Eisteddfod has short-listed 12 talented individuals for the upcoming preliminary round.

The preliminary round will take place in the picturesque town of Llangollen on July 3, where three of the musical hopefuls will be selected to perform during the finals at the festival's Royal International Pavilion

on July 4. Last year's winner, Megan-Hollie Robertson, wowed audiences and adjudicators with her performances of Home from Beauty and the Beast, The Girl in 14G and Perfect from Edges on the stage of the Royal International Pavilion in July 2017.

Since winning the prestigious title and undertaking a trip of a lifetime, she has also completed a two-month pantomime tour of Wales and Somerset, performing Mother Goose, and achieved her second degree – a BA (Hons) in Theatre from the Guildford School of Acting.

Audition opportunities have also been flooding in for the talented performer following her win. Megan-Hollie, said: "I'd urge anyone with a passion for music and performance to enter the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod's competitions and go into it aiming to have a wonderful day out doing what they love."

"That's all I did and look where it got me."

# Food banks are stretched, says councillor

FOOD banks across Powys are stretched as levels of food poverty continue to rise according to a councillor.

Figures published earlier this year showed that 24 per cent of the population in Wales suffer from income poverty and the demand for emergency food bank packages rose by three per cent in the last year.

Food bank numbers have increased significantly in Powys in recent years.

In the county, food banks have opened in towns including Newtown, Brecon, Llandrindod Wells and Welshpool.

The county's anti-poverty champion, Councillor Joy Jones has warned that food banks are becoming stretched.

And she warned that with the roll-out of Universal Credit this year, the problem could get worse.

She said: "Most of the major towns in Powys now have food banks.

"These are a lifeline for people struggling in Powys and their clients exist from throughout the socio-economic spectrum, not just for the unemployed."

The councillor added: "Food banks are reporting an increasing number of people requesting help which is putting an even greater strain on their resources and they cannot cope with the demand being placed on them."

"Often employment in Powys is of a precarious nature, low paid on zero hour contracts, people are insecure, living from one pay day to another."

"Many do not know how much money they will have in their pockets at the end of the month, pre-

venting them from spending, and supporting the local economy."

Figures from the Trussell Food Trust found that in Wales, 98,350 three-day food bags were given out from April 2017 to March 2018, 35,403 of which were to children.

Councillor Jones refused to support a five per cent tax rise in Powys earlier this year, because of people in the county in poverty.

She believes there are a host of reasons as to why poverty is increasing.

The councillor said the reasons include the centralising of hospital services, government cuts and low wages.

The problem is also continuing to grow in Shropshire.

The Shropshire Food Poverty Alliance has been launched in a bid to tackle the issue.

The alliance has launched a survey and will hold events in the coming weeks to hear from community groups and people suffering with poverty.

Jackie Jeffrey of Citizen's Advice in Shropshire said: "We estimate about 27,000 families may have their food budgets reduced due to loss of council tax support and the introduction of Universal Credit.

"It is shocking that people are going to bed hungry in our community."

"The Shropshire Food Poverty Alliance aims to understand the current situation and create better solutions."

Events are being held in Shrewsbury on Wednesday and on June 21, in Wem on June 24 and in Craven Arms on June 29.

All the details are on the group's website at shropshirefoodpoverty.org.uk.

# Urgent plea is made for more blood donors to come forward

AN appeal for blood has gone out after a slump in donations.

People in Shropshire and Mid Wales are being urged to give blood by the NHS Blood and Transplant organisation.

It says the lack of O negative and B negative donors giving blood in the run-up to the recent bank holiday has meant that stocks of these groups could fall below two days.

The organisation is asking anyone who knows they have these

blood types but may have not donated before to give blood now.

Mike Stredder, director of blood donation at NHS Blood and Transplant, said: "There is a longer-term problem putting real pressure on these blood groups, particularly stocks of O negative.

"This type is increasingly being used as an emergency substitute for Ro blood because we don't have enough of the rare

sub type to meet demand. This rare subtype is more common

in black people, but most people don't know they have this subtype until they donate and there is a huge shortage of Ro blood donors. The urgent need for O negative and B negative is driven by changes in how sickle cell is treated which has driven up demand and we are struggling to match this."

"At the moment O negative and B negative donors can walk in and donate at most of the fixed site donor centres."

# Line-up of Eisteddfod finale is confirmed

THE line-up for the finale of an international music festival has been announced with organisers ramping up preparations ahead of the July event.

The Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod will conclude on July 8 with its annual Llanfest event.

Organisers have already announced the artists who will top the bill, with Toploader and The Hoosiers being joined by headliners Kaiser Chiefs on the main stage.

This year will also see festival-goers able to enjoy new and emerging bands on three different outdoor stages packed with rock, pop and indie acts.

Liverpool's famous Cavern Club will host its first ever pop

stage at Llanfest, with performances from their world class resident musicians covering countless artists who have played in the club over the years.

Event chairman Dr Rhys Davies said organisers are always trying to introduce new audiences and the line-ups on the outdoor stages will be made up of acts from around the region.

He said: "We're yet again introducing new audiences to temporary genres of music, perfectly combining the festival's culture and heritage with ground-breaking modern talent to create the ultimate finale. We look forward to continuing to showcase a wider musical offering to expand upon our current audience."

"We're delighted to announce such a show-stopping line-up for Llanfest's outdoor stages.

"We are a truly global festival and it is wonderful to offer local talent the opportunity to perform on our worldwide stage. Most artists are based in Wales or the surrounding areas of Staffordshire, Merseyside and Cheshire and that is testament to the musical talent on our doorstep."

Solo artist Jack Found will be taking to one of the stages, along with four piece alternative rock band Billy Bibby and The Wry Smiles from North Wales and Chester.

Staffordshire band Camens will perform, along with Wrexham based Destination and solo artist Lucy Mayhew.

# 'Perfect list' proving a hit with surgeons

THE "perfect list" of surgery times is seeing operations at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital go more smoothly and use less theatre time.

An innovative way of using the state-of-the-art theatres is being trialled by surgeon Simon Hill and a team of theatre staff. Other surgeons are already showing interest in being involved, the hospital's latest NHS trust board meeting heard.

The hospital has 10 operating theatres, one of which is hired out to the neighbouring North Wales Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board.

It targets is to have 118 theatre sessions each week.

The board heard that hitting the target depended on how well the theatres were utilised.

Now a small number of days are being turned into "perfect list" surgery with a number of changes to include all equipment for the day prepared the night before and a second patient trolley.

Consultant Mr Hill, a foot and ankle specialist, said: "The perfect list involved a review of all our processes with the aim of running a theatre list that runs as efficiently as possible. Although we had more work booked in, because of the organisation the staff found it less stressful and the theatre had an early finish."

# Mayor backs restoration of workhouse

A SCHEME to repair and reopen part of Llanfyllin's Victorian workhouse has been given a boost with the official backing from the town's mayor.

Councillor Simon Baynes has announced that his two charities for this year will be the Master's House at Y Dolydd and Concertina, which supports music for the elderly.

Recently the trust which runs Y Dolydd had to make urgent repairs to the Master's House winning a £2,740 grant from the Welsh Church Act fund, which assists with local projects of all kinds through the Community Foundation in Wales.

Councillor Baynes said the restoration project was important to retain a piece of Llanfyllin's history.

Recently the long-term plans for the work were welcomed in principle by Powys County Council planners subject to formal approval and agreement with Building Control.

The plans include a new main entrance into Y Dolydd. Councillor Baynes said he was keen to help with the target of £50,000 to make the Master's House secure.

The trustees of The Concertina Charitable Trust have granted funds to over 300 charitable organisations in England and Wales.

# Health boss in bullying worry

MORE than 20 per cent of cases handled by a system for hospital workers raised concerns related to bullying.

A total of 40 issues raised with Freedom to Speak Up guardians at Shrewsbury and Telford Hospitals NHS Trust have been registered between February 2017 and March 2018.

A report assessing the process has recorded that 24 per cent of cases related to bullying and harassment, 32 per cent related to concerns over managers, and 16 per cent were about behavioural or relationships issues.

The hospital trust's chief executive Simon Wright said he was pleased that people were raising issues that they have but said he was concerned about the number relating to bullying.

He said: "I think it is really good people are using the Speak Up guardians, it is really important that if they feel they have got a concern there is a voice they can go to for support. The fact they need to is a concern. If we look at the staff survey, touching on bullying we were average for the NHS but what we have said is that average is not good enough when you are talking about that subject. People are working hard and it can get fractious, that can manifest itself in the wrong things being said."

## Consultation so important, says George

MONTGOMERYSHIRE Assembly Member Russell George says he can't stress enough how important it is for Mid Wales residents to take part in the Future Fit consultation.

Consultation on the shake-up of Shropshire hospitals launched last week.

Pop up events are already provisionally scheduled for Montgomery, Knighton, Welshpool, Llanfair Caereinion, Llanfyllin, Llanrhedr-ym-Mochnant, Llanidloes, Caersws, Machynlleth, Newtown and Kerry.

A major exhibition event is also scheduled for 3.30pm to 7.30pm on June 28 in the Elephant and Castle in Newtown.

Mr George said: "I can't stress enough how important it is for the people of Montgomeryshire to respond to this consultation in order to be able to get the best deal for the people of North Powys. I have been unashamedly in favour of the preferred option which sees services retained and strengthened in Shrewsbury which is centrally located to serve the healthcare needs of the wider region and those of us here in Montgomeryshire who access health services from across the border.

"This important consultation has been a long time coming."

## AM issues call over screening

A POLITICIAN has called on women across Mid Wales to attend cervical screenings after attendances across Wales fell to an 11-year low.

Cervical screening prevents 75 per cent of cervical cancers from developing yet attendance in Wales is now at an 11-year low, with only 75.2 per cent of women in Hywel Dda University Health Board taking up their screening invitation.

Mid and West Wales AM Simon Thomas has backed Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust by urging women to attend the screenings.

He said: "Around three women are diagnosed with cervical cancer in Wales every week.

"Cervical screening provides the best protection against the disease so it is concerning to hear that so many women are not attending this potentially life-saving test when invited.

"We all have a role to play in increasing attendance and we need to work together to ensure that women invited for their screening understand the importance of the test and are able to access the programme."

## Concern raised over pharmacies

RESIDENTS in North Shropshire have good access to pharmacies – but there's less provision in the south of the county on a Sunday, an assessment has found.

Pharmacy opening times in the south of the county need to be extended on Sundays, according to the report.

An assessment of the county's pharmaceutical needs carried out by Shropshire Council and Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group is calling for changes to ensure people can get medication when they need it. Findings in the report include that 42 per cent of 5,804 people who responded to a survey said they would go without medication if an emergency supply was not available. The report says that there are enough pharmacies covering the county but that the south Shropshire situation should be addressed.

It states: "There is good geographical coverage of pharmaceutical services across Shropshire and the majority of residents can access them easily. In terms of opening hours, there are five '100 hour' pharmacies across Shropshire equating to around one in 10 pharmacies, with residents in Shrewsbury and North Shropshire having access to a community pharmacy for at least 100 hours during the week. Most residents have good access to a pharmacy during weekdays and Saturdays. However there appears to be less provision and choice on Sundays in south Shropshire and in particular on Sunday evenings."

# Number of consultants could double in a few months to deal with staffing shortfall

Report by Dominic Robertson

Telford, eight short of the recommended number.

Current staffing problems have led to a situation where there is no A&E consultant on site at the Princess Royal Hospital most evenings during the week and at weekends.

### Grade

The trust is also looking to recruit more middle grade doctors.

A recent board report showing that 10 and a half are employed across both hospitals, with a required number of 32.

The report states that the pressure has impacted on the trust's ability to meet the four-hour A&E waiting time limit and compromises training.

It states: "This inability to recruit to substantive middle grade posts has led to an almost total reliance on locum middle grade cover after 11pm at PRH and on some nights at RSH and the requirement for two of the consultants to act down.

"This dependency on locum cover increases the level of risk to quality assurance and the trust's ability to deliver the four-hour patient safety standard."

"The number of changes to the rota to spread the risk is significant and are a potential retention risk to the department.

"It also compromises the training and supervision of junior doctors within the department overnight."

Mr Wright added: "If you imagine you are in a queue of people waiting to be seen in A&E, not urgently, maybe you have cut your finger and it needs stitching, then along comes an ambulance with an acutely unwell patient who goes straight in to resuscitation.

"The doctors have to leave to look after them."

Mr Wright added: "Our problem is when they go into that room there is no one else to do the treatment so they breach the four-hour waiting time."

# Future Fit plan is 'right answer' says hospital chief

Kristine is the latest winner of hero award

Report by Dominic Robertson

THE chief of Shropshire's major hospitals has urged the public to support the Future Fit plans, and back what "doctors and nurses say is the right answer".

Simon Wright, chief executive of Shrewsbury & Telford Hospitals NHS Trust, was speaking as the long-awaited consultation over the proposals got under way.

If given the go-ahead they would see around £300 million spent on creating one emergency centre at either Princess Royal Hospital Telford or Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.

Under the plans both hospitals would have urgent care centres, which deal with walking wounded rather than emergency patients, and women and children's services would have to be based at the hospital chosen as the site of the emergency centre.

A 14-week public consultation on the plans launched last week and a series of workshops and meetings will be held to gather opinions.

### Critics

Asked to respond to critics of the Future Fit plans Mr Wright said: "If our doctors and nurses say it is the right answer, if the clinical sense, the powers that be at NHS say it is the right answer then you have to come to a point where you have to say it is the right answer."

Mr Wright said the proposals had taken time to get to this stage and had secured multi-million pound backing from government.

He said: "If I start from the position that 300 doctors, nurses and GPs spent the best part of three years creating this model, we have secured the largest amount of capital, 50 per cent of the English allocation is coming to Shropshire, not London, not Manchester, not Birmingham, not Stoke, but to Shropshire I think this is something we should be celebrating."

The chief executive urged everyone to take part in the consultation whether they agree or not. He said: "For those who perhaps are less well versed please come to the sessions, please ask questions, fill in questionnaires and take the time to really start to understand what this means for you and your family because we want to hear your views. I would say keep an open mind, look at the facts, look at the evidence."



Kristine receiving her health hero award from Mark Brandreth with members of the estates and facilities team looking on

AN admin assistant has won the latest health hero award at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

Kristine Griffiths, who works in the estates and facilities department, won the award for her role in support services for keeping the hospital running day-to-day.

The award is presented to unsung heroes from across the hospital who are nominated by their peers for going the extra mile to help.

She was nominated by Hannah Sinclair, personal assistant to the associate director of estates and facilities and office manager.

Hannah said: "The first experience people

have with the hospital, when they're already feeling nervous, is using the car park. Keeping this running smoothly is an invisible but vital part of the support services.

"Most people will not realise the contribution Kristine makes in keeping the car park renewal process going each year."

"Thousands of RJAH staff, volunteers, governors, foundation trust members and more have their new parking permits sent to the estates office every year."

"It takes a person with particular patience and diligent attitude to complete what is a thankless task of ensuring all permits are dis-

tributed correctly. It involves coming across people she has never met, who can be anxious and frustrated, putting them at ease by demonstrating competence and just getting the job done."

Kristine, who previously won the apprentice of the year award at the 2016 Celebration of Achievement Awards, was thrilled to receive this latest recognition. She said: "I am absolutely delighted to receiving this award, it was totally unexpected. I would like to thank Hannah for nominating me, and the rest of the estates and facilities department, who are a great team to work with."

# Campaigners say there's a 'black hole' in scheme

NHS campaigners have claimed there is a financial black hole at the heart of the Future Fit plans.

Gill George of Shropshire's Save the NHS group said the consultation into the £300 million shake-up of the country's hospitals should be used to take stock of the whole process and then to think again.

She urged people to speak up during the 14-week consultation, adding: "There is now a gaping black hole at the heart of the Future Fit financial plans. It is time to stop and

re-evaluate the proposals before local health leaders lurch into serious and irreversible mistakes."

She said figures she had seen show that there was no margin for error in the finances and the costings used by Future Fit for the future of A&E services lack detail and do not take into account any issues that may come up at the Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust (Sath).

She said: "There is no room for error here. If Sath's assumptions are wrong, or if Sath's

financial situation deteriorates, or if Sath is unable to manage a challenging financial situation, the small surplus will disappear."

She added: "Future Fit has always been a cuts plan. The latest information shows 330 nursing jobs set to go, and a cut in medical beds of over 10 per cent. The problem is that there just isn't enough money coming into the NHS in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. Running the NHS as a collection of competing small businesses and starving them of the funding they need to survive is simply daft."

"Future Fit makes a bad situation much, much worse. We're now facing at least £27 million extra cuts on top of the cuts we already knew about. We're looking at the potential collapse of our hospital trust because senior managers can't get their sums right. This is a situation of escalating chaos – and to start fake public consultation on this basis is outrageous. We need both our A&Es, both our hospitals, and maybe most urgently of all, adequate funding for our NHS. It's time to pull the plug on Future Fit."

# Councillor hopes drug arrests were an 'exception'

A COUNCILLOR is hoping two recent arrests at a former hotspot for drug-related activity in Oswestry is an isolated incident.

A 37-year-old woman was arrested in possession of Class A drugs in Swan Lane in Oswestry, while in Castle Street a teenager from Merseyside was also arrested for possession of Class A drugs.

Two adults were also found to be in possession of cannabis and are set to be dealt with by the police.

Flats on Swan Lane were previously noted

for drug and crime issues, however they were knocked down in 2015 and replaced with new homes.

County councillor for the area, Vince Hunt, believes the raid in Swan Lane is just an exception compared to previous problems and insisted the area is much better than it once was.

He said: "Swan Lane did have a notorious reputation in the past for drug issues before the flats were knocked down and new homes were built.

"Now it is a much nicer place and there are

some really nice people in the area now, so I am sure that this raid is an exception."

"I am delighted the police are continuing to crack down on drug dealing in the town, because it can decimate and blight communities."

Last month Oswestry Police Inspector Tracy Ryan said officers in the area were continuing to drive drug dealers out of the town, particularly in relation to cuckooing, which sees dealers force vulnerable people out of their homes and begin dealing.

The latest arrests are part of County Lines

raids, which involves city drug dealers exploiting young or vulnerable people to sell drugs in rural towns across the country, with drug dealers placed by a dedicated mobile phone line.

Councillor Hunt added: "It is hard to get rid of drug dealers from Oswestry all together. You shut down one drug dealer and another will pop up in a different area, it is a bit like wac-a-mole."

"One issue is that we are close to Liverpool and Manchester who target smaller towns."

"However I don't believe Oswestry has a bigger problem than any other area."

## College lines up feast of fun



Business admin apprentice Bekki Fardoe, activity officer Neil Prescott and schools liaison and marketing co-ordinator Chloe Edwards look forward to the family fun day

STAFF at a college are busy preparing for their upcoming family fun day.

North Shropshire College will hold its annual fun day on Saturday from 10am until 3pm at the Oswestry campus which will be held alongside Shropshire FA's under eight and 10 football tournaments.

As well as the football there will be a whole host of events including exotic animals, go-karts, a bouncy castle, and all proceeds will go to two local charities.

This year North Shropshire College is donating to CRY for Matthew, which is raising awareness of heart defects in young people and raising funds for heart screening in Cheshire and Shropshire.

The other charity to benefit from the fun day will be The Isabelle Lottie Foundation, which is campaigning for a better understanding of brain tumours in children and young adults.

Lucy Evans, marketing and customer service manager at the college, said: "Last year we had a fantastic event."

"The football tournament was very popular with visitors and we had a great turnout for the family fun day."

"We are pleased to be supporting two great causes this year with our chosen charities CRY for Matthew and The Isabelle Lottie Foundation, and we look forward to welcoming families to this year's event."

# Funds crisis delays some road projects

A NUMBER of planned road improvement schemes are being delayed because of Shropshire Council's funding crisis, it has been revealed by officers at the authority.

The improvement work on the roads, scheduled to be carried out in 2018/19 and 2019/20, will now not be done until 2020/21 at the earliest as the transport budget is reduced by £5m.

Schemes include the planned speed reduction scheme for Weston Lane near Oswestry that was agreed two years ago.

Residents on Weston Lane have been calling for the reduction in the speed limit because of road safety concerns.

Road repairs, including potholes, will be unaffected.

Dave Gradwell, Shropshire Council's area traffic engineer, said community led concern schemes such as that one are being postponed to allow accident data led schemes to go through.

Mr Gradwell said: "Shropshire Council's highways and transport capital budget is to be reduced by £5 million in each of the next two financial years.

"This reduction is to support Shropshire Council in meeting its savings targets, which are as a result of reduced central Government funding and also recognise the additional pressure on adult social care budgets.

"This means that a number of planned highways improvement schemes scheduled to be carried out in 2018/19 and 2019/20 will now be deferred until 2020/21 at the earliest, including the planned speed reduction scheme for Weston."

Thelma Parker who lives in Weston Lane said: "It is a nonsense that this small, winding lane has a 60 mile an hour speed limit.

"We were told last year we would get the new speed limit, now it is getting postponed.

"It is dangerous."

**Inspections**

"Inspections, repairs, and maintenance work funded through the highways revenue budget would be unaffected and all defects identified or reported, including potholes, will continue to be repaired in accordance with our policy."

"At the appropriate time, the budget reduction will be reviewed with a plan to reinstate the full capital budget for the 2020/21 financial year."

Thelma Parker who lives in Weston Lane said: "It is a nonsense that this small, winding lane has a 60 mile an hour speed limit.

"We were told last year we would get the new speed limit, now it is getting postponed.

"It is dangerous."

## Teeth whiten scam family ordered to pay back £1.6m

THREE members of a family have been ordered to pay back £1.6 million made from selling illegal teeth whitener containing high levels of hydrogen peroxide.

Matthew Hargreaves, 46, and his parents John, 71, and Jean, 72, from Knutsford, Cheshire, were subject to a three-year investigation called Operation Gleam.

The operation was led by Powys County Council's trading standards team after harmful

products were found at the 2013 Royal Welsh Show in Builth Wells.

In 2016 they admitted fraud charges and the two men were jailed for 18 months, with Mrs Hargreaves handed a suspended sentence. Now they have been threatened with significant jail terms unless they pay back a total of £1.6 million, following a proceeds of crime hearing at Caernarfon Crown Court.

The court hearing heard how

the family owned a number of properties, having illegally made £2.5 million from the illegal products.

Matthew Hargreaves was ordered to pay back £1,096,500 within three months, or face a seven-year jail term. Jean Hargreaves was ordered to pay £519,940 back and John Hargreaves must pay back £995, and if they don't the pair will serve a five-year jail term and three-month jail term respectively.

# 'Rural premium' hits school transport costs

FREE school transport for pupils in Shropshire is becoming increasingly difficult to fund because of the cost of a "rural premium", it has been warned.

Per-head costs for school transport in Shropshire are £184, compared to £38 per head in neighbouring Telford & Wrekin and £17 in Wolverhampton, says the County Councils Network.

New analysis from the body, shows that for county councils and county unitary authorities the average costs per head for home to school transport – free buses, taxis, and other transport for eligible pupils – are £93 per child, compared to £10 per child in cities and towns.

This is due to the higher numbers of pupils who are eligible

for free transport in rural areas. As a result of these higher costs county authorities have had "little choice" but to reduce school transport services to reduce overall expenditure.

In total, 29 out of 36 county councils reduced their expenditure on home to school transport between 2014 and 2017, figures show.

Data from 20 of those councils shows that thousands of pupils no longer receive home to school transport and have to find other means of getting to school, or pay charges.

Under government eligibility, pupils under the age of eight are entitled to free school transport if they live over two miles away from their nearest school.

The service is open to pupils over eight if they live three miles away from their nearest school.

Councillor Steve Charmley, deputy leader of Shropshire Council said the issue of school transport was very much on the agenda.

He said: "Everything is under review.

"Any service running at present it being looked at.

"The rurality of Shropshire makes it very difficult to keep these services running. We are looking at ways to save money as a council. Money is tight and we have to look at all aspects.

"We try to keep things running at the least but costs for rural transport can lead to difficult times."

# Garden set to open to visitors to help charity

A GARDEN where plants meet art is opening to the public for charity.

Bryn y Llidiart near Llanrhedr ym Mochnant is high up in the Berwyns, close to the Shropshire border and will open by appointment for visitors in aid of the National Gardens Scheme.

The garden and the stone longhouse with a contemporary extension of oak, slate, glass and stone are the dramatic work of Christine and John Scott, plantaholics and keen gardeners.

Sitting in the spectacular landscape of the Berwyns the garden includes granite glacial boulders, windswept hawthorn hedges, shale paths and local slate.

Helen Anthony from the National Garden Scheme said: "The garden has been praised by National Trust garden advisors as setting the gold standard for how a garden should fit into a landscape."

"The mostly perennial planting merges into the seven acres of managed wildflower meadow where the mown paths meander to seats strategically placed for visitors to enjoy the spectacular panoramic views."

The garden is open by arrangement until the end of September.

People should contact Dr John and Mrs Christine Scott on (01691) 780080 or christine.scott@nhs.org.uk to arrange a visit or for more information.

## NFU Mutual to sponsor farming prize

NFU Cymru has announced that its partners at NFU Mutual are the new sponsors of the long-running Wales Woman Farmer of the Year award.

In what has traditionally been a very male-dominated industry, Wales' farming heroines often don't get the full recognition they deserve and the NFU Cymru/NFU Mutual Wales Woman Farmer of the Year competition, now in its 22nd year, aims to celebrate the contribution of women in the farming industry.

The winner of the NFU Cymru/NFU Mutual Wales Woman Farmer of the Year 2018 competition will receive £500 and the person who nominates the winner will receive £50's worth of local farm shop vouchers or goods. The closing date for the competition is June 18.

John Davies, NFU Cymru president, said: "The Wales Woman Farmer of the Year award is there to champion the role that women make to farming businesses and wider rural life.

"Over the years we have seen some exceptional winners of this award and we look forward to receiving applications for the 2018 title."

Visit [www.nfu-cymru.org.uk](http://www.nfu-cymru.org.uk) or contact NFU Cymru for an application form by telephoning (01982) 554200.

## Work of support scheme spelt out

FARMING Connect is able to support farmers and foresters in all financial aspects of managing profitable woodlands, whether they are considering woodland establishment, woodland management or are interested in developing their woodland business.

That was the message relayed to woodland experts at two seminars held recently as the Welsh Government project presented its toolkit of options to more than 140 delegates. Geraint Jones, technical forestry officer for Farming Connect, said: "We were keen to share information, learn from experts within Wales' woodland sector and give attendees the opportunity to learn more about how we can play our part. Promoting plantations, managing woodlands and bringing environmental benefits to Wales' rural landscape is one element of our project. Farming Connect aims to increase efficiency and profitability within Wales' woodland sector, so we are keen to reach out to individuals and small businesses working within the industry. Farming Connect's advisory service, which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Welsh Government offers expert, independent, confidential and bespoke advice to people, so we urge people to get in touch."

## 20 Wake up to organic with new campaign

FREE breakfasts will be given out in some Shropshire towns to celebrate organic food.

The Organic Trade Board is inviting people up and down the nation to a free organic mini breakfast.

Stores in Oswestry, Ludlow, Church Stretton and Market Drayton are taking part.

Aileen Nicol, campaign director at the Organic Trade Board, comments: "Wake Up To Organic is the perfect opportunity to encourage people to make a simple switch to organic, with breakfast a great place to start the journey. We want to show how easy it is to go organic by showcasing the range of choice available in local independent stores. It's all part of our mission to make organic every day and for everyone, sharing the many benefits of making that choice."

As well as a free organic taster breakfast, select stores will be offering a range of activities including organic cookery demonstrations, opportunities to meet local organic producers, as well as the chance to receive top tips on making a switch to organic. "Going organic has never been easier and the appetite for organic food and drink is continuing to grow with sales in the UK at an all-time high of £2.2 billion," Aileen said.

## Triathlon on canal was a hit say organisers

ORGANISERS of an annual triathlon are celebrating their best ever year with almost 250 competitors taking on the 35-mile course across two counties.

This year's Montgomery Canal Triathlon took place on May 19, with a total of 247 people taking part on one, two or all three sections of the race.

It began with a 17-mile cycle ride from Newtown to Pool Quay, before an 11-mile walk or run to Morton near Oswestry, then finishing with a seven-mile canoe to Frankton Locks.

Competitors came from as far as Devon, Yorkshire and Scotland, with the oldest entrant 72 and the youngest just two years old.

The first to arrive at the finish took just over four hours, and Christine Palin, chair of the Friends of Montgomery Canal said it was the best event since the triathlon began seven years ago.

She said: "This must have been the best triathlon ever. The sun was shining which added to peoples' enjoyment, though there were times when the shade of canal-side trees was welcome."

"The event could not have taken place without the support of many volunteers who helped to set up beforehand and those who helped with marshalling on the day."

Organisers are unsure of the figures raised, but a lot of the money will go to help unblock the last road bridge on the canal, the Schoolhouse Bridge, to allow further restoration work to take place.

## Woman airlifted after road crash

A WOMAN was airlifted to hospital with serious injuries after a four-car crash on a main road.

Emergency services including Dyfed-Powys Police, Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue crews, Wales Ambulance Service and an air ambulance were called to the crash on the A458 near Llanerfyl, Welshpool shortly before 11.45am on Friday.

One woman was airlifted to the Royal Stoke University Hospital with serious injuries, while a boy was taken to the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital by road and two further patients were transported to Bronglais General Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

A spokesman for the ambulance service said: "We were called at shortly before 11.45am to reports of a four-vehicle road traffic collision on the A458 near Llanerfyl."

"A Wales Air Ambulance, two crews in emergency ambulances and a paramedic in a rapid response vehicle were sent." The road was blocked into Friday afternoon, before a single carriageway was open at 2pm while further clear-up work continued.

# Work of county health watchdog is spelt out to members of disability support group

## Report by Jonny Drury

THE work carried out by a health watchdog in Shropshire has been spelt out to members of an Oswestry disability support group.

Disability Oswestry (DO) continues to support local groups who support people with any kind of disability.

It also investigates services that are available to people.

At its May meeting, the group had an informative talk by Adelle Wilkinson, community engagement officer for Healthwatch Shropshire.

When asked about what Healthwatch Shropshire does, Adelle said: "Now more than ever, as health and social care services change to meet growing pressure and demand it is extremely important that people are at the heart of decision-making."

"This is where Healthwatch come in, we are there to represent the collective voice of the people of Shropshire."

"By talking to people about their experiences of local services, seeing what is working well or indeed what needs to be improved Healthwatch can collect vital information that reflect what it is like for real people, on a practical basis, day to day."

"We can then take this anonymised information to the people who are providing, designing and buying local health and social care services and try and get some of the issues addressed."

"The more people that tell us what happened

to them when they last used a service the more information we have, giving power to the collective voice."

"Sometimes there are issues that we are not even aware of, but as we get a few people tell us their stories we find that we have scratched the surface of a much bigger problem."

"We will often then have these issues as a subject for what we call our 'Hot Topic'. We will run a Hot Topic for around two months, gathering as much intelligence on a particular subject as possible. Our Hot Topic at the moment is ear wax removal services, many people have been telling us that they are finding it increasingly difficult to get this service where they live leading to hearing problems. It's really easy to share your experience, you can ring

(01743) 237884 and talk to a person over the phone, email [enquiries@healthwatchshropshire.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@healthwatchshropshire.co.uk) or write to us at 'Freepost Healthwatch Shropshire' or visit our website [www.healthwatchshropshire.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchshropshire.co.uk)"

DO's next meeting on June 27 welcomes Curtis Langley, fundraising and marketing officer at The Movement Centre, based at the Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital. The Movement Centre provides targeted training for children with a disability such as cerebral palsy which affects their movement control. This can totally transform the lives of these children. DO will be meeting at 10.30am at Hope Church, Laburnum Drive, Oswestry. For more details e-mail [disabilityoswestry161@gmail.com](mailto:disabilityoswestry161@gmail.com), or phone (01691) 680382.

# Jon gives his view from across the pond on life in USA

## Report by Mark Andrews

IT was a chat with his boss that gave the BBC's man in Washington the idea for a book.

"We were having a conversation about how sometimes the British audience doesn't quite get America," Jon Sopel says.

"He said to me, 'if only they didn't speak English, they'd treat it as a foreign country', and I thought that would one day make a good book title. Once I'd started working on the idea of the book, the title became obvious to me."

Sopel, who has been the BBC's North America editor for the past three years, was in Oswestry on Friday to promote his new book with that very name.

His appearance was organised by Booka Bookshop and took place at the Wynnstay Hotel.

He says the changes that have gripped the US since he began working on the book in 2016 have done little to change his view that events across the pond sometimes seem very strange when viewed from a British perspective.

"I started to work on the book when everyone was lazily assuming Hillary Clinton would be the next president," says Sopel, who previously served as a BBC political correspondent and presenter of The Politics Show.

"I was never convinced, and always thought there was a strong possibility Donald Trump would be. That was fascinating, and I thought it would give the book a real edge."

Sopel says people in Britain feel they understand Americans because they wear similar clothes, listen to the same music, watch the same films and read the same books. But he says there are many deep-rooted distinctions between the two countries which have their basis in the very different ways the countries have evolved over the past 200 years or so.

"It's not about how we pronounce things differently, it's not about superficial, shallow differences. It's about the role of government, the state, guns, the history of race and patriotism," he says. "There are similarities between Britain and the USA, but there are also very big fundamental differences."

"The idea that you could be debating a new health policy that could take insurance away from 20 million Americans strikes me as bizarre," he says.

"But I do think that British people could learn a lot from Americans about patriotism and love of country."

## Project will celebrate women's work and lives



Mark Hignett from Oswestry Town Museum with some of the first posters already completed for the heritage project

FROM Guinevere of King Arthur fame to Dame Agnes Hunt who helped launch the orthopaedic hospital, women have played a major part in the life of Oswestry.

To mark the annual Heritage Open Days project no less than 101 women from the town are to be recognised in a celebratory exhibition wall.

The 101 project has seen women from all walks of life and times gone past to present day nominated for the wall, that will be displayed at the Memorial Hall and other venues in the Oswestry in September.

Heritage Open Days across the country are searching for half a dozen or so women who have made a difference to their area but in Oswestry, Mark Hignett from the town museum has upped the search to 101.

"I wanted to be able to say that we have

found more than 100 influential women," he said. "This year's national Heritage Open Days theme is extraordinary women and we have had many of these in Oswestry. It is reputed that Guinevere, the wife of King Arthur, was born in Oswestry."

As well as women of the past nominations have flooded in for those from the present, not only from Oswestry but the villages around the town.

Mr Hignett said: "We will feature women of all ages who have been or are influential in the area.

"I don't want to spoil the surprise by announcing all the names but we have got a wide range of people."

He said among those being featured were Dame Agnes Hunt, and the Allies spy, Violette Szabo. The woman who gave her life for the

war effort did some of her training at the Park Hall military camp on the edge of Oswestry.

The first woman to be buried in Oswestry's extended cemetery in 1862, Sarah Fox, is recognised as Fanny Mostyn Owen, who was the love interest of Charles Darwin before he left for his voyage on the Beagle.

Another is Shropshire wheelwright's daughter, Olwen Price, who won the hand in marriage of 22-year-old Aldo Gucci. In modern times one of the many women to be nominated is community engagement officer, Corrie Davies, who has helped facilitate dozens of projects in and around the town. The festival in Oswestry will run from September 6-19. As well as the exhibition the Heritage Open Days event will see historic places open to the public, art and poetry competitions, dance shows, fashion shows, astronomy talks and more.

# Farm machinery targeted by theft gangs say police

FARM machinery has been targeted by thieves 24 times in Shropshire in the first three months of the year.

There has also been 17 quad bike thefts, eight battery thefts and seven trailer thefts over the same time period, it has been revealed.

And now police officers have met with farmers to look at ways of combatting rural crime and engage with the farming community.

The initiative, at Shrewsbury and Oswestry livestock markets, was led by Shropshire officers and aimed to offer crime prevention

advice including machinery tagging. Constable Ross Cookson, of the safer neighbourhood team, and rural and business crime officer Philippa Jackman-Day attended four Shrewsbury sessions with Hanwood farmer Andy Babb.

A session was also held at Oswestry with others planned and this was led by the officers and NFU group secretary Stuart Chacksfield.

PC Cookson said: "Being at the livestock markets are a great way to talk directly to farmers about the issues.

"From a policing point of view this is about having a presence at the livestock market, breaking down any barriers and encouraging people to come and speak to us, which they have done."

"It helps having farmers on the stand as it encourages others to come over and there are some areas in the county where items are going missing and we want to be able to engage the community about that."

"Quad and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) theft is spiking a little which is why it's so important

to discuss crime prevention and measures like tagging as an option. It's always worth farmers speaking with us, making contact and building relationships as well as reporting incidents because it helps us to take action."

Jonathan Evans, NFU county adviser, said the livestock market sessions had worked well and he called for farmers to remain vigilant in rural areas, join Farmwatch schemes and keep an eye out for suspicious people or vehicles.

In an emergency farmers are encouraged to call the police on 999.

# PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY  
GUIDE TO HOME  
BUYING AND  
LETTING

## Double fronted home lies within picturesque valley

A detached double fronted Victorian house, Bryn Ceiriog, Pontfaen, Chirk, lies in the rural hamlet of Pontfaen within the picturesque Ceiriog Valley.

Having oil central heating and double glazing, it is for sale through JJ Dell & Co at £649,995.

In more detail the entrance hall has a composite door with coloured glazing, tessellated tiling to the floor and a dado rail. Having a marble fireplace, the lounge has picture railing, sash windows to the front and side elevation, ceiling cornice and panelled flooring. Currently used as an office, the sitting room has a feature fireplace, panelled flooring, two windows to the side, a front sash window, picture railing and ceiling cornice. The reception room has French sandstone flooring, an integrated bar and a window with plantation shutters, and a door leading to the cellarage.

The laundry has a tessellated floor, plumbing for washing machine and dryer, space for fridge/ freezer, a side window and a door. Being L-shaped, the breakfast kitchen is luxurious, having both space for a dining and lounge area. It comes with a range of wall and base units with granite work tops, a central island with a range of drawers and shelving, a granite work top and seating area. There is a 'Belfast' sink with mixer tap and cupboards under, a feature arch with inset complimentary tiling, an electric and LPG cooker point, extractor fan, integrated dishwasher, French sandstone flooring and a window to the rear and side, with plantation shutters. The dining area has French sandstone flooring and a wood burning stove, while the lounge area has bi-folding doors opening out to a decked seating area. The morning room – currently used as a cinema room – has floor to ceiling windows, patio doors to the garden, plus a door to the bathroom/ sauna with a double sink in vanity style, a storage cupboard, low flush WC, a fully tiled walk-in shower, floor tiling and a window to the side.

On the first floor are the four bedrooms, one en-suite, a bathroom and a storage room.

### KEY FEATURES

- Period residence
- Four bedrooms
- Three bathrooms
- Reception room
- Breakfast kitchen

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## Former pub is now spacious family home

**MELVERLEY**  
£440,000

A former public house having bed and breakfast potential, Tontine Inn on Church Lane, Melverley, Oswestry is now a large detached seven en-suite bedroomed home.

Being spacious and well maintained in a pleasant location, it is for sale through Morris Marshall & Poole at £440,000 with no chain. It has been recently upgraded to become a spacious family home. Having oil fired central heating and double glazing throughout, it includes a large sun room, an open-plan living/dining room with an impressive fireplace, seven first floor bedrooms all with en-suite bathrooms or shower facilities. There is also a fitted kitchen, a guest lounge and ancillary ground floor toilets and stores.

Contact Morris Marshall & Poole on 01691 679595.



**Three bedroom semi-detached home is close to amenities**

**ST MARTINS**  
£149,000

<<<

A three bedroom semi-detached house Green Lane, St Martins, has a good sized rear garden and is within walking distance of the local supermarket.

The property is on the market through JJ Dell & Co with a guide price of £149,000. The accommodation has the benefit of electric radiators and an open coal fire. There is an entrance hall, living room, breakfast kitchen and on the first floor there is access to loft space and airing cupboard. There are three bedrooms on the first floor and there is a bathroom too. Outside the property is approached over a tarmacadam driveway leading to a garage and car port. The front gardens are laid to lawn.

For more information about the property and to arrange a viewing, contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 and 680212.



Tel: 01691 679631

<b>St Martins</b>  A RECENTLY CONSTRUCTED THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED PROPERTY ON A NEW DEVELOPMENT. £165,000	<b>Chirk</b>  A LARGE DETACHED BUNGALOW WITH THREE BEDROOMS AND AMPLE OFF ROAD PARKING. Offers in the region of £169,000	<b>Glyn Ceiriog</b>  A CHARACTERFUL TWO DOUBLE BEDROOM MID TERRACED, WITH NO CHAIN, CLOSE TO AMENITIES, WITH PLEASANT VIEWS TO THE REAR. Chain Free £82,500	<b>Llanfechain</b>  A BEAUTIFULLY QUaint, CONVERTED CHAPEL, EDGE OF VILLAGE LOCATION, TWO BEDROOMS. £115,000	<b>Morda</b>  THREE BEDROOM COTTAGE, OPEN VIEWS TO THE REAR, PARCEL OF LAND INCLUDED Offers in the region of £129,995	<b>Llanrhaeadr Y M</b>  A DETACHED COTTAGE WITH TWO BEDROOMS IN THE HEART OF A TRADITIONAL VILLAGE. Offers in the region of £155,000	<b>Gobowen</b>  A THREE BEDROOM DETACHED FAMILY HOME WHICH IS SITUATED AT THE END OF A CUL DE SAC VILLAGE LOCATION. £165,000
<b>Oswestry</b>  A SPACIOUS, FOUR BEDROOM, SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE IN A SOUGHT AFTER LOCATION. Offers in the region of £220,000	<b>Ruyton XI Towns</b>  A SPACIOUS, WELL MAINTAINED TWO DOUBLE BEDROOM, DETACHED BUNGALOW WITH AMPLE PARKING. Offers in the region of £230,000	<b>Penybontfawr</b>  A COTTAGE STYLE THREE BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE WITH VIEWS OF THE OPEN COUNTRYSIDE. Offers in the region of £169,950	<b>Ruabon</b>  A STUNNING TWO BEDROOM, TWO STOREY, TOWN HOUSE, STABLE CONVERSION IN THE WYNNSTAY HALL ESTATE. Offers invited £175,000	<b>Llanrhaeadr</b>  A DELIGHTFUL TWO BEDROOM COTTAGE WITH CONVERTED LOFT ROOM IN TRADITIONAL VILLAGE. Offers in the region of £179,950	<b>St Martins</b>  OFFERED WITH NO CHAIN!!! AN EXTENDED FOUR BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE SITUATED IN A QUIET AREA ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE POPULAR VILLAGE OF ST MARTINS. Offers in the region of £189,950	<b>Llansantffraid YM</b>  AN IMMACULATLEY PRESENTED, THREE BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW, WITH VIEWS OVER OPEN COUNTRYSIDE. £210,000
<b>Llansantffraid</b>  A SPACIOUS AND IMMACULATLEY PRESENTED, DETACHED THREE DOUBLE BEDROOM BUNGALOW WITH EXTENSIVE GARDENS AND COUNTRYSIDE VIEWS. £335,000	<b>Penygarnedd</b>  A FOUR BEDROOMED COUNTRY COTTAGE, RENOVATED TO A HIGH STANDARD WITH STUNNING VIEWS. £350,000	<b>Oswestry</b>  AN EXECUTIVE DETACHED, 5 BEDROOM, WHICH ONCE WAS THE SHOW HOME, IN A SOUGHT AFTER AREA. £375,000	<b>Lower Hengoed</b>  A STUNNING SOUTH FACING DETACHED COUNTRY COTTAGE WITH MANY ORIGINAL FEATURES, FOUR BEDROOMS, THREE RECEPTION ROOMS, TWO BATHROOMS and a DOWNSTAIRS CLOAKROOM. Offers in the region of £425,000	<b>Llanfechain</b>  AN IMMACULATE, SPACIOUS, DETACHED COUNTRY HOME NESTLING IN SIX ACRES OF LAND WITH A SUPERBLY VERSATILE OUTBUILDING. Offers in the region of £525,000	<b>Froncysyllte</b>  A STUNNING TRADITIONAL WELSH STONE FARMHOUSE WITH 6.5 ACRES with a STONE BUILT COACH HOUSE. £550,000	<b>Deytheur, Llansantffraid</b>  A SUPERB, SPACIOUS, FIVE DOUBLE BEDROOM DETACHED PROPERTY set in a PICTURESQUE LOCATION with AMAZING COUNTRYSIDE VIEWS. £545,000
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## Home is a stunning country cottage

**LOWER HENGOED**  
£449,950

Town and Country Oswestry are delighted to offer Denmark Cottage, Lower Hengoed to the market.

There is no chain and the property is on the market for £449,950.

The home is a stunning south facing detached country cottage with many original features, four bedrooms, three reception rooms, two bathrooms and a downstairs cloakroom.

The property is located in a popular sought-after rural location with beautiful countryside walks and views.

The current owners have affectionately decorated throughout making a comfortable and enjoyable home to spend time in.

Contact Town and Country on 01691 679631.



**17th century home offers highly flexible accommodation**

**HOPE**  
£725,000 <<<

**Little Hope, at Hope, Leighton near Welshpool is a 17th century cottage that has undergone a large extension.**

Currently run as a bed and breakfast business, its flexible layout means it also provides for two co-habiting families, with separate quarters. In a design which flows with exceptional clarity and focus as a property with an option for two halves, it is for sale through Balfours at £725,000.

Nestled in the hamlet of Hope, Leighton is just two miles from Welshpool, with all necessary services to hand. It is located on the original Offa's Dyke and sits within an acre of garden and grounds in an elevated position on Long Mountain. The result is a magnificent uninterrupted vista across open countryside – a true wow.

Contact Balfours on 01743 353511.

**J. J. DELL & Co.**

CHARTERED SURVEYORS

**PANT**

**NEW**

- Individually Designed
- Detached Four Bedrommed House
- Quiet Cul De Sac Village
- GFCH & D/Glazing
- Spacious Reception Hall/Study
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Utility And Cloakroom
- Dining Room
- Living Room
- Master Bedroom En Suite
- Double Garage And Ample Parking
- Double Glazed Easily Maintained Gardens
- EPC Band - JJD106

GUIDE PRICE £350,000

**THE WERN, LLANMYNECH**

**GUIDE PRICE £725,000**

- Spacious Four Bed Detached House
- With Two Bed. Detached Bungalow
- Oil Fired And Solid Fuel Heating
- Suitable For Two Families
- Outskirts Of Village
- Location
- Woodland Views
- Approx. Two Acres Of Woodland
- Double Garaging To Both Sides
- Store Sheds
- EPC Band - E

JJD996

**WHITTINGTON**

**GUIDE PRICE £275,000**

- Three Bed Semi-Detached Village Cottage
- Quiet Road Location
- GFCH & DG
- Kitchen And Utility
- Dining Room And Sitting Room
- Bedroom
- Bathroom And Shower Room
- Ample Car Parking.
- Wash House
- Award Winning Side/ Rear Garden
- EPC Band - E

JJD977

**GOBOWEN**

**NEW PRICE**

- Close Care Residential Bungalow On Purpose Built Complex
- CH & DG
- Lounge/Dining Area
- Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Rear Enclosed Paved Area
- Further Overnight Visitor Accommodation Available
- EPC Band - E

JJD987

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £65,000

**GOBOWEN, NR. OSWESTRY**

**GUIDE PRICE £103,000**

- Retirement Bungalow On Purpose Built Complex
- Minimum Age 55 Years
- CH & DG
- Lounge/Dining Area
- Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Clothes Store
- Two Bedrooms
- New Bathroom/Wet Room
- Garage
- Rear Enclosed Courtyard
- Office
- EPC Band - D

JJD986

**OSWESTRY**

**NEW**

**£142,000**

- Up-dated And Decorated Semi-Detached Bungalow
- GFCH & UPVC Windows
- Open Plan Living
- Outskirts Of Town Location
- Entrance Hall
- Living Room
- New Kitchen
- Spacious Bedroom
- Good Sized Wet Room
- Double Glazed (Master Bedroom & Bathroom)
- Gardens
- Ample Off Road Parking
- EPC Band -

JJD1007

**TREFONEN**

**GUIDE PRICE £469,000**

- Superb Spacious Detached Bungalow With Country Side Views
- GFCH & DG
- Reception Hall
- Two Reception Rooms
- Study
- Bedroom And Utility/WC
- Sun Room And Garden Room
- Four Bedrooms (Master En-Suite)
- Double Garage
- Good Sized Gardens
- EPC Band - E

JJD1001

**PONTAEN, NR. CHIRK**

**NEW PRICE**

- Detached Victorian House In Delightful Rural Hamlet
- GFCH & DG
- Large Kitchen With Dining And Living Area
- Reception Room With Conservatory
- Lounge And Sitting Room
- Morning Room (Used as a Cinema Room)
- Bedroom
- Four Bedrooms (Master En-Suite)
- Two Bathrooms
- Country Side Views
- EPC Band - F

JJD998

GUIDE PRICE £649,995

**CHURCH STREET, OSWESTRY - TO LET**

**RENT - £12,500**

- Most Attractive Grade II Listed Property
- Short Distance From Major Retailers And Institutions
- Bar/Restaurant/Cafe Venue
- Excellent Location
- Busy Trading Position
- Reception Area
- Bar/Canteen
- Function Room
- Kitchen
- Female/Disabled Toilets
- Flexible Terms To Be Agreed
- EPC Band - JJD991

**ELLESMORE - TWO UNITS TO LET**

**£19,000 & £23,000**

- Two Large Industrial Units
- Each Providing Garage/ Workshop/Storage
- 2 x Two Tonne Cranes
- Excellent Yard Space Providing Parking/Lorry Parking
- Office
- Unit F - RENT £19,000 (Floor Area - 6,918 sq. ft)
- Unit G - RENT £23,000 (Floor Area - 8,400 sq. ft)
- EPC Band - E

JJD087

**DEVELOPMENT SITE - HENGOED**

**£445,000**

- Site Extending To 0.8 Acres
- Property Occupied By Industrial Units
- OPP For Future Executive Dwellings
- Outskirts Of Village Location
- Open Views Across Surrounding Countryside
- We understand Mains Electricity And Water Available

JJD893

**PROPERTIES REQUIRED**

- All Types Of Properties Required
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- Contact Us To Arrange No Obligation Visit

JJD000



MORRIS MARSHALL & POOLE

with norman lloyd

**Lavender Cottage, Glentworth, Oswestry** £375,000

Detached family home set in approx 1/3 acre gardens. Close to Town Centre and convenient for amenities, shops and schools. Four bedrooms, 2 being en-suite. Lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen, office, music room. Double garage, utility, workshop. Ample parking including bay for motor home / caravan. EPC Rating - C (73)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



**Leeswood, Morda Rd, Oswestry** £450,000

Detached Victorian 5 bedroom period family home. Large garden including former tennis court. Two en-suites. Impressive main bathroom. Three spacious reception rooms. Hand made kitchen and utility room. EPC Rating = 22(F)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



**Residential Properties To Let**

**OSWESTRY**

2 Bedroom Mid Terrace, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets (EPC = 58D) (£520 Dep)..... £420 pcm

**MORDA**

2 Bedroom Mid Terrace, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets, (EPC 53E) (£475 Dep) ..... £375 pcm

**GOBOWEN**

3 Bed Village House, Gas C/H, Parking, FTE, No Pets, (EPC=79) (£695 deposit) ..... £595 pcm

**LLANSANTFFRAID**

2 Bedroom New Semi-Det House, LPG Gas/H, FTE, No Pets, (EPC= 82) (£595 deposit) ..... £495 pcm

2 Bedroom New Semi-Det House, LPG Gas/H, FTE, No Pets, (EPC= 82) (£625 deposit) ..... £525 pcm

**HALTON, CHIRK**

3 Bed Semi detached, Oil C/H, FTE, NO Pets (EPC=33F) (£700 Deposit) ..... £600 pcm

Fees: Application Fee: £40 Per Applicant - Lease Fee: £150



**19 Maes Y Foel, Llansantffraid** £220,000

Four bedroom detached house. Renovated throughout and in excellent condition. Open plan kitchen / family living room. Double glazing and oil central heating. Garage and carport and ample parking. Recently landscaped gardens to front and rear. EPC Rating = 47(E)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

**121 Heritage Way, Llanymynech** £120,000

An end terrace house with open views to the rear. Edge of well served village. Well maintained accommodation including an attractive landscaped rear garden. Two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, cloakroom and bathroom. Two private parking spaces to the fore. Gas-fired central heating and double glazing. EPC Rating: 79(C)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



**Old Rectory Cottage, Llanymynech** £210,000

Attractive individual character cottage-style property affording part of the original Rectory. Lounge, kitchen/dining, cloakroom, utility. Three bedrooms. Oil central heating, double glazing. Attractive well maintained gardens. Detached garage, office space, on-site parking. Centrally located in the well served village. EPC Rating: 47(E)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



**St Winifred's Cottage, Maesbury Marsh** £245,000

Semi detached 3 bedroom village cottage. Lounge, kitchen/breakfast, study /office, utility. Downstairs 4 piece bathroom suite. Oil-H. Range of ancillary outbuildings, Large rear garden plot, 0.56 acre. Ample off road parking. EPC = 29(F)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



## SURVEYS & VALUATIONS

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Machynlleth 01654 702472

Newtown 01686 626160  
Oswestry 01691 679595  
Rhayader 01597 739994

Tywyn 01654 710388  
Welshpool 01938 554818  
Aberdyfi (window display)



## Well appointed home sits in a cul-de-sac

TETCHILL  
£295,000

A well appointed detached four bedroom house, 4 College Close, Tetchill, near Ellesmere is situated in a small cul-de-sac position with only five properties.

It is located in a sought after village on the outskirts of Ellesmere. The property is on the market through JJ Dell & Co with a guide price of £295,000.

The property is a well maintained detached dwelling traditionally constructed of brick under a slate roof having the benefit of oil fired central heating and double glazing.

The home has a reception hall, living room, dining room and kitchen. There is also a utility. On the first floor is the master bedroom, ensuite, two further bedrooms and a fourth bedroom or study.

Contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 and 680212.



**Stunning  
farmhouse  
enjoys  
superb views**

LLANRHAEDR  
£400,000 <<<

Clynog, Llanrhaeadr Ym Mochnant near Oswestry is a stunning Grade II listed farmhouse in an elevated position.

It is for sale through Bowen Son & Watson at £400,000. The property is situated on the outskirts of the picturesque village of Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant close to the confluence of the rivers Tanat and Rhaeadr in the stunning Berwyn Mountains.

The property has a reception hall, music room, sitting room, dining room, kitchen lounge, kitchen, utility room, rear lobby, coal house, gallery landing, a loft storage room, integral garage, gun room, five first floor bedrooms, a family bathroom, five attic rooms, large gardens and an orchard/paddock.

Call Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367.

**SALES**  
ENQUIRIES PLEASE TELEPHONE 01743 353511

[www.balfours.co.uk](http://www.balfours.co.uk)



NEW

Llanerchydol, Welshpool

Guide Price £725,000

A substantial former farmhouse recently refurbished and finished to an exacting standard in a stunning rural location with outstanding views

Entrance Hall, Kitchen / Dining Room, Utility, Living Room, Family Room, Games Room, Garden Room, Master Suite with Walk-In Wardrobe and En Suite, Three Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Approx. 2 Acre Plot (0.81 ha), Self-Contained Two/Three Bedroom Accommodation with Kitchen / Sitting Room and Bathroom, EPC Rating D



Frankton, Ellesmere

Guide Price £500,000

A wonderful home with stunning views, situated between Oswestry and Ellesmere

Entrance Hall, Sitting Room, Family Room, Dining Room, Kitchen / Breakfast Room, Rear Kitchen, Rear Hallway Entrance, Utility, Fuel Store, Study, Downstairs Cloakroom, Family Bathroom, Computer Room, Storage, Garage, EPC Rating E



NEW

Ruyton XI Towns, Shropshire

Guide Price £495,000

A modern house on the edge of Ruyton XI Towns with far reaching panoramic views to the west across Shropshire and into Wales

Entrance Hall, Kitchen / Dining Room, Sitting Room, Study, Downstairs Bathroom, Downstairs Bedroom 4, Sun Lounge, Bedroom 1 with Balcony, Bedroom 2 with En Suite, Two Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Cellar, Garage, Summer House, EPC Rating D

## Unique coverage across Shropshire, North &amp; Mid Wales and into Cheshire

Thinking of selling?  
Contact your local office today

**Oswestry**

01691 652367  
35 Bailey Street, Oswestry, SY11 1PX  
oswestry@bowensonandwatson.co.uk

**Ellesmere**

01691 622534  
Old Town Hall, The Square,  
Ellesmere, SY12 0EP  
ellesmere@bowensonandwatson.co.uk

**Wrexham**

01978 340000  
1 King Street, Wrexham, LL11 1HF  
wrexham@bowensonandwatson.co.uk

**Llangollen**

01978 860346  
34 Castle Street, Llangollen, LL20 8RT  
llangollen@bowensonandwatson.co.uk

**Chirk**

01691 772443  
2 Church Street, Chirk,  
Wrexham, LL14 5HA  
chirk@bowensonandwatson.co.uk

**NEW**

**Lynch's  
Oswestry**

£295,000

- A delightful 3 bedroom detached dormer bungalow
- Which has been maintained to a high standard by the current owners
- Situated in the village of Lynch's with views over open countryside
- Entrance Hall, Living Room, Dining Room, Sitting Room
- Kitchen/Diner, Utility Room, Study and Bathroom.
- To the 1st floor two bedrooms with en-suites & further 3rd bedroom
- Good sized garden with an outdoor BBQ area, summerhouse & garage
- UPVC double glazing throughout and oil central heating

**NEW**

**High Street  
Llanfyllin**

£225,000

- Ideal investment opportunity to purchase a block of 5 apartments
- Located in the charming Welsh village of Llanfyllin.
- The accommodation comprising:
- Two ground floor 1 bedrooms flats
- One second floor 2 bedroom flat.
- Four of the flats are currently tenanted on AST.
- Electric storage heater throughout.

**NEW**

**Heather Close  
Oswestry**

£105,000

- NO CHAIN - A 2 bedroom mid terrace property in need of modernisation
- Situated within a popular and quiet residential cul-de-sac location
- Within easy walking distance of Oswestry town centre.

**NEW**

**High Fawr  
Avon**

£119,995

- NO CHAIN
- one bedroom semi detached bungalow
- In a sought after residential location
- Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen
- Bedroom and Bathroom
- Gardens to the rear & driveway
- Storage heaters, UPVC Double Glazing
- EPC Rating F (36)

**NEW**

**High Street  
Llanfyllin**

£125,000

- Ideal investment opportunity to purchase a block of 3 apartments
- Within the charming Welsh village of Llanfyllin
- One ground floor 1 bedroom flat
- One first floor 1 bedroom flat
- One second floor 2 bedroom flat
- All the flats are currently tenanted on AST
- Electric storage heater throughout.

**NEW**

**Maedow Dale  
Llanymynech**

£249,950

- OPEN DAYS - SATURDAY 9TH, 16TH, 23RD & 30TH JUNE
- A small residential development
- Spacious 4 bed detached house
- Lounge/Kitchen, Utility, Cloaks
- 4 Beds (master en-suite) & Family Bathrm
- Gas C/H & D/G, Garage
- Come with a 10 year warranty

**NEW**

**Liverpool Road  
Oswestry**

£199,950

- A spacious Edwardian 4 Bedroom End-of-Terrace House
- Situated in an established residential location
- The property has been maintained to a high standard
- Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Living Room
- Kitchen, Utility, Sun Room & ground floor Shower Rm
- 3 Double Bedrooms & 1 Single Bedroom
- Further Sun Room and Family Bathroom
- Enclosed courtyard and garage.
- Gas central heating and double glazing.
- EPC Rating E (40)

**NEW**

**Building Plot  
Gobowen**

£50,000

- An excellent residential development opportunity located in the popular village of Gobowen
- Extended to 0.12 acres (0.04 ha) or thereabouts
- Having outline planning permission for the erection of one detached dwelling.

**NEW**

**Twmpath Lane  
Gobowen**

£280,000

- FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION (unless sold/withdrawn prior)
- ON THURSDAY 28TH JUNE 2018 AT THE LION QUAYS, MORTON, OSWESTRY
- An interesting investment/development opportunity comprising of a row of four, 2 bedroom terrace houses
- The four cottages sit on a generous size plot (approx. 0.32 acre)
- Offering ample off road parking and gardens to the rear.
- The cottages offer spacious living accommodation each comprising:
- Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, 2 Bedrooms and Bathroom

**NEW**

**Llandysilio  
Llanymynech**

£150,000

- FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION (unless sold/withdrawn prior) ON THE 28TH JUNE 2018 AT THE LION QUAYS HOTEL, OSWESTRY AT 2.00 PM.
- A rare opportunity to purchase a 3 bedroom detached cottage
- In need of some modernisation
- Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility Room
- Rear Porch and Bathroom.
- An enclosed garden with a host of a mature shrubs
- Off road parking, EPC Rating F
- Oil Fired Central Heating

**NEW**

**Moelfre  
Nr Oswestry**

£140,000

- FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION (unless sold/withdrawn prior) ON THE 28TH JUNE 2018 AT THE LION QUAYS HOTEL, OSWESTRY AT 2.00 PM.
- An interesting development opportunity comprising of a former school building and adjoining school house all in need of a full scheme of renovation
- The properties sit within a large plot extending to approximately 0.25 acres (0.1 ha) all with excellent views across surrounding countryside.
- The school building has been divided into and used as residential accommodation whilst the adjoining former teachers accommodation

**NEW**

**Wharf Cottages  
Rhoswiel**

£190,000

- A deceptively spacious 2 end terrace Canal Side Cottage
- Kitchen, Lounge, Study, Cloakroom
- 2 Bedrooms and Family Bathroom
- A canal side garden, further side and rear gardens
- Single Garage, two loose boxes and parking spaces
- Upvc double glazing and gas fired central heating
- NO CHAIN

**NEW**

**Carneddau Close  
Trefonen**

£380,000

- A substantial Detached 4 Bedroom Family Home with Double Garage situated in the popular village of Trefonen.
- This well presented property enjoys a sought after position
- Entrance Hall, Cloak Room, Lounge, Sun Room, Dining Room
- Study, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility Room, Master Bed with Dressing Rm & En-Suite, 3 further Double Beds & Family Bathrm
- Off road parking, double garage and enclosed gardens
- Oil central heating and double glazing.

**NEW**

**Babbinswood  
Oswestry**

£350,000

- Spacious 4 bed detached cottage situated in the Hamlet of Elford.
- Ent Hall, Cloaks, Lounge/Dining Rm
- Kitchen, Utility, Snug & Conservatory
- Two en-suite bedrooms
- 2 further Bedrooms & Family Wet Rm
- Extensive lawned garden with hedge surround
- Off road parking, double garage and conservatory
- Two en-suite bedrooms
- Two further Bedrooms & Family Wet Rm

**NEW**

**Oswald's Well lane  
Oswestry**

£285,000

- A spacious 4 bedroom detached dormer bungalow.
- Situated within walking distance of the Market Town of Oswestry.
- Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Utility Room, Dining Room, Conservatory
- Study/Bedroom Four and Downstairs Bathroom.
- Three Bedrooms and Family Bathrm.
- Gas fired central heating and upvc double glazing
- Good sized gardens with views over the Brecon and playing fields.
- EPC Rating C (70). NO CHAIN

**NEW**

**Rosehill Avenue  
Wellington**

£199,995

- Well proportioned 2/3 bedroom detached dormer bungalow
- Situated in the sought after village of Wellington
- Ent Hall, Cloakroom, Lounge, Kitchen, Conservatory
- Dining Room and Study/Bedroom 3
- 2 Bedrooms and Bathrm on 1st floor
- Enclosed rear garden with paved seating area
- Off road parking and Single Garage
- UPVC double glazing and Gas C/H
- EPC Rating awarded. NO CHAIN

**NEW**

**Upper Brook  
Street**

£99,995

- Well presented 2 bedroom mid terraced property
- Situated on the fringe of the town centre
- Lounge, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms and Bathrm
- Rear Garden with Shed
- Gas C/H and D/G. EPC Rating F (28)
- An Ideal First Time or Investment

# The new magazine for Shropshire



**TELFORD'S LIONS:** Why the 1966 World Cup winners came to town

**CAVE LIFE:** The county couple who are bringing back ancient lifestyles

**PLUS:** Home brew, Dan Nightingale, TV, life in the sky, health, Benjamin Zephaniah

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NEWS OUTDOORS EVENTS FOOD REVIEWS

Why are young women in Shropshire having cosmetic procedures?

Issue 15  
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YOUR COUNTY.  
YOUR VOICE.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Issue 15...**



### NEWS

#### THE MODERN CAVEMEN

We meet the amazing Shropshire couple who are bringing back historic crafts and techniques from their woodland hidey-hole.

### OUTDOORS

When the 1966 England World Cup team trained at Lilleshall – and played a match against Telford United.

### EVENTS

Get ready for the musical event of the year – Lionel Richie is coming to Shrewsbury – plus all the concerts taking place around the county.

### FOOD

Home brew is making a comeback. We get tips from two local experts on the subject.



### REVIEWS

The best places to eat, the picks of what's on television, films heading to Shropshire cinemas, and another great day out come under the microscope.

**PLUS - LOCAL NEWS | SPORT**  
**ENGLAND FANS | FASHION**  
**LIFE AS A FLYING INSTRUCTOR**  
**TV | DAN NIGHTINGALE**  
**PUZZLES | ROCKING HORSES**  
**COSMETIC PROCEDURES**

**ON SALE FRIDAY**



Tennis is a fun game for all the whole family



A drop-in tennis session at Boughey Tennis Club at Newport

# Is my diet causing outbreaks of acne?

MANY of us think acne only affects young people, but nearly half of women aged 21 to 30 suffer with this common condition, writes Liz Connor.

Count yourself lucky if you weren't plagued with blemishes throughout your school days, but many of us learn the hard way that spots don't magically disappear when you enter your 20s.

Research from the International Dermal Institute indicates that acne is rising in adulthood, with women most likely to be affected.

A 2012 study published in the Journal of Women's Health found that acne affects nearly half of all women aged 21 to 30, a quarter of women aged 31 to 40, and 12% of women aged 41 to 50.

Anyona that has experienced adult acne will tell you it is a painful condition to manage, both physically and psychologically. So how best can you tackle blemishes and breakouts in your later years?

We asked experts to weigh in...

## What is adult acne and what are the symptoms?

"The most common cause of acne is dead skin cells blocking hair follicles and allowing bacteria to build up," says Dr Faye Christopherson. "What separates adult acne from the spots you get as a teenager is that they tend to be focused on the lower half of the face, particularly the jawline. The blemishes are often larger and redder, compared with the blackheads and whiteheads of your younger years."

## Why exactly can it occur later in life?

"Studies suggest that 80% of cases affect women, a trend that has been attributed to hormonal changes," says Christopherson. "It can also be a side effect of certain medications."

What possible treatments are available and what are the most effective?

"Crucially, adult acne shouldn't be treated in the same way as teenage acne. As adult acne results in different sorts of blemishes, you'll need to ask your doctor about the best prescription medication," stresses Christopherson.

"Options include a cream containing vitamin A, which will unclog your follicles, anti-inflammatories or oral contraceptives to regulate your hormonal balance. Your doctor will choose the best treatment based on the type and severity of your symptoms."

## Could my diet be contributing to my adult acne?

"Certain food types can cause a spike in your blood sugar, which prompts your body to release insulin," says Will Hawkins, nutritionist at Push Doctor. "Excess insulin in your blood can trigger your oil glands and increase your risk of acne. Foods that can do this include high-glycaemic carbs such as white pasta, white rice, white bread and sugar."

"Other studies have connected adult acne with components of the so-called 'Western diet', such as high-glycaemic carbs, dairy and trans fats."

## What food types should I consume to avoid breakouts?

"To lower your risk, try and eat more low-glycaemic carbs, such as whole grains, oats, sweet potato, legumes, lentils, peas, fruit and non-starchy vegetables," says Hawkins. "These will keep your insulin levels steady and lower your risk of triggering an acne outbreak."

"There are also plenty of other nutrients that can lower your chances of acne."

"For example, zinc has been shown to keep your skin healthy. It's found in lamb, beef, chicken, nuts and seeds, dark chocolate and spinach, among other things."

"Vitamins A and E are useful in the production of collagen, which is good for your skin health. These two vitamins also help damaged skin heal quicker and reduce the chances of permanent scarring as a result of acne. Vitamin A can be found in orange fruit and veg, such as carrots, apricots, sweet potatoes, butternut squash, melon and mango."

"Vitamin E, on the other hand, is found in particularly high amounts in seeds and dark leafy greens. Many fruits and vegetables are also powerful antioxidants, which can reduce cell damage and keep your skin clear and healthy."



# New bid to serve up next generation of tennis stars

By Lisa Salmon

**EVERY** summer, millions of people love to watch players like **Andy Murray** and **Johanna Konta** strive for success at **Wimbledon**.

But our top players won't be playing forever, and unless more children get involved in the sport, the nation will be left with hardly anyone to cheer for at the big matches.

That's why the **Lawn Tennis Association (LTA)** is running the **Tennis for Kids** programme, offering children aged four to 11 a value-for-money and fun introduction to tennis, including six sessions at a participating local tennis club, a racket, balls and personalised T-shirt, for just £25.

Enrolment has now started for the nationwide scheme, which is in its third year and has already inspired more than 35,000 children to try tennis for the first time. This year, the age groups have been widened and even more tennis clubs throughout the country are taking part.

In Shropshire there are some three dozen tennis clubs, with vast majority of them running junior programmes, so there is likely to be one near where you live.

## Memories

Alfie Hewett, World no. 1 wheelchair tennis player and 2017 Wimbledon Men's Doubles Wheelchair Tennis champion, adds: "I fell in love with the sport at a young age and I'm fortunate that it's led to my career and the friendships I've made along the way."

"Tennis has given me so much, both on and off the court, and I would encourage any child to give Tennis for Kids a go - it's the perfect place to start."

If you're unsure about whether to get your kids playing tennis properly, leading LTA coach Sam Richardson, who's been coaching tennis for more than 20 years, explains some of the benefits:

### 1. Physical health benefits

Tennis is the perfect way to encourage children to be active outside and have fun.

"This sport includes a lot of running around and the use of the entire body, and therefore is a great way to tire out energetic kids - it's a great source of exercise for little ones," says Richardson.

Tennis is hugely beneficial for cardio health - the constant movement, quick changes in pace and direction (combining anaerobic and aerobic fitness), makes it one of the best workouts for the heart.

The sport increases strength in growing bones and improves reaction times as you dart to hit the incoming ball - this also increases flexibility, since you need to adjust quickly to reach different shots. It also improves hand-eye co-ordination.

### 2. Anyone can learn

Children can start learning to play tennis without ever having tried it before. Tennis for Kids courses are designed for children who've never played and each session is fun, with some activities open to parents, too.



Ex-top star Greg Rusedski on a visit to Bridgnorth in 2016 to inspire the next generation of players with Ales Cotton and Erin Beards



A coaching session at Market Drayton Tennis Club



Kevin Drake training at Tennis Club Shrewsbury



A coaching session at Market Drayton Tennis Club

"You don't need to be Johanna Konta or Andy Murray to want to pick up a racket," says Richardson.

### 3. It's relatively injury-free

Tennis is a safe sport for children as it's contact-free, and with coaches on-hand during lessons to teach beginners proper technique and form, there's less chance of injury.

### 4. Tennis improves the mind as well as the body

Tennis helps players with problem solving and discipline, and teaches them how to work best in a team, listen to directions

and play fairly.

"I've also noted that kids are more confident after playing tennis, and that shy kids often come out of their shell after a few lessons," says Richardson.

"Tennis sessions teach children how to not only work with a partner, but individually, which helps to encourage good sportsmanship and responsibility, which can sometimes be lost in larger team sports."

### 5. They'll make new friends

Children learning to play tennis are likely to play with or against children of a similar age, and having fun and playing games with

others means many new friendships can be forged on the courts. Parents are also likely to benefit from meeting other parents at the tennis club.

### 6. It's great for all the family

Tennis is a sport that both adults and children can get involved with, and it can help the whole family come together.

Richardson says: "I love nothing more than seeing families coming out to play tennis, as it's a great game for all generations - it allows you to be rigorous and intense, but also allows you to play at your own pace and ability."

**Casualty**

8.25pm

Eddie discovers that Alicia has swapped all her shifts to avoid him, while Bea receives a phone call about her dad and leaves work to pick him up from the police station.

**BBC1**

- 6.00 Breakfast.  
 9.00 **Saturday Kitchen Live.** Michel Roux Jr hosts the cooking show, joined by guests Adrian Edmondson, Jamie Oliver and Marianne Lumb. Plus, classic culinary clips from the BBC archives.  
 10.30 **Trooping the Colour.** Coverage of the annual pageant, which officially marks the birthday of HM Queen Elizabeth II, performed by the 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards on Horse Guards Parade.  
 1.05 **BBC News;** Weather.  
 1.20 **Triathlon: Nottingham Mixed Relay.** Highlights of the inaugural staging of the World Triathlon Mixed Relay event, which took place in the River Trent and around the city.  
 2.50 **Athletics: Diamond League Oslo Highlights.** The Bislett Games. Action from the fifth round of the season, staged at the Bislett Stadium.  
 3.50 **Money for Nothing.** Sarah Moore enlists the help of blacksmith Bex Simon, design duo Josh Kennard and Oli Milne and upholsterer Ray Clarke to transform items reclaimed in Greater Manchester and Surrey. (R)  
 4.50 **Escape to the Continent.** Anita Rani goes house-hunting in the Poitou-Charentes region of France to help a Gloucestershire couple who are looking for a new start. (R)  
**BBC News.**  
 6.00 **Midlands Today;** Weather.  
 6.05 **FILM: Maleficent (2014).** A fairy is betrayed by her ambitious human lover, and plots to get revenge on him by cursing his daughter. Fantasy adventure, starring Angelina Jolie and Elle Fanning.  
 7.35 **Pointless Celebrities.** Jimmy Osmond, Kym Mazelle, Jedward, Nancy Lam, Sam Simmons, Ossie Ardiles and Guillert Balagué compete in an internationally themed edition of the unorthodox quiz show. (R)  
 8.25 **Casualty.** Eddie discovers that Alicia has swapped all her shifts to avoid him, while Bea receives a phone call about her dad and leaves work to pick him up from the police station.  
 9.15 **All Round to Mrs Brown's.** Brendan O'Carroll dons Agnes's cardigan and curlers to host the chat show, joined by Geri Horner, Gloria Hunniford, Nigel Havers and UB40. Featuring Ali, Astro & Mickey.  
 10.15 **BBC News;** Weather; National Lottery Update.  
 10.35 **FILM: Thor: The Dark World (2013).** The alien thunder god returns to Earth when a powerful weapon from the dawn of time is discovered. The device attracts the attention of an old enemy of his people, who intends to use it to plunge the universe into darkness - and to stop him, Thor must form an uneasy alliance with his treacherous brother Loki. Superhero adventure sequel, starring Chris Hemsworth.  
 12.20 **The Button.** Game show set simultaneously in the houses of five UK families, as they compete to win challenges determined by The Button in the comfort of their living rooms. Last in the series. (R)  
 12.50 Weather for the Week Ahead.  
 12.55 **BBC News.**

**Trooping the Colour Highlights**

7.30pm

The best of the annual pageant, which officially marks the birthday of HM Queen Elizabeth II, performed by the 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards on Horse Guards Parade.

**BBC2**

- 6.25 **David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities.** (R)  
 6.50 **Naomi's Nightmares of Nature.**  
 7.20 **The Pets Factor.**  
 7.40 **The Dengineers.**  
 8.10 **Absolute Genius Super Tech with Dick & Dom.**  
 8.40 **Beyond Bionic.**  
 9.10 **Natural Born Winners.** Athletes compete in sports from around the world. (R)  
 10.10 **Astronauts: Do You Have What It Takes?** (R)  
 11.10 **Homes Under the Hammer.** (R)  
 12.10 **The World Cup: Heroes of '66.** Profile of the World Cup-winning squad.  
 12.45 **Wanted Down Under.** Dave Vickerstaff and wife Becky consider a new life in Australia. (R)  
 1.30 **The World According to Kids.** The children discuss what it means to grow up. (R)  
 2.30 **Second Chance Summer: Tuscany.** The group begin to settle into rural living after their first week in Tuscany. (R)  
 3.30 **Demolition: The Wrecking Crew.** A team demolishes an office block in the centre of Doncaster. (R)  
 4.30 **Love in the Countryside.** Farm contractor Buzz juggles dating two best friends. Last in the series. (R)  
 5.30 **The River Wye with Will Millard.** New series. The writer and angler travels along the waterway.  
 6.00 **Grammar Schools: Who Will Get In?** Documentary contrasting the mixed fortunes of Townley Grammar in Bexley, south-east London, and its near-neighbour Erith School, a secondary modern. (R)  
 7.00 **Dad's Army.** The platoon is selected to appear in an army training film, but Captain Mainwaring refuses to take part when he finds out his men are to play Nazi soldiers. (R)  
 7.30 **Trooping the Colour Highlights.** The best of the annual pageant, which officially marks the birthday of HM Queen Elizabeth II, performed by the 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards on Horse Guards Parade.  
 9.00 **Germaine Bloody Greer.** Profile of the writer and academic, whose 1970 book *The Female Eunuch* became an international bestseller and an important part of the feminist movement.  
 10.00 **A Girl's Guide to TV.** Comedian Rachel Parris presents a comic guide on how women can get ahead in television, despite in her words "their bodies teeming with pesky oestrogen".  
 10.45 **Later Weekend with Jools Holland.** Extended version of the music programme, featuring performances by Christine & the Queens, Kamasi Washington, St Vincent, Daniel Caesar and Daniel Blumberg.  
 11.45 **FILM: Made in Dagenham (2010).** The female employees of Ford's London plant in the 1960s lead a strike, demanding the right to equal pay. Fact-based comedy drama, starring Sally Hawkins and Miranda Richardson.  
 1.30 **This Is BBC2.**  
 5.55 **Glorious Gardens from Above.** (R)

**Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule**

7.30pm

An unseen edition featuring the host's favourite moments from series two that did not make the final cut. Featuring Johnny Vegas, Jimmy Osmond and Anneka Rice. Last in the series.

**ITV**

- 6.00 **CITV: Sooty 6.10 Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids 6.20 Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids 6.30 Signed Stories: Share a Story 6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures 6.55 The Oddbods Show 7.05 Star Wars Freemarker Adventures 7.30 Teen Titans Go! 7.40 Adventure Time 7.55 Drop Dead Weird**  
**ITV News.**  
 8.30 **Zoe Ball on Saturday.** With Emma Bunton, Jimmy Doherty, Hugh Dennis and London Hughes.  
 9.25 **James Martin's Saturday Morning.** The TV chef invites is joined by guests Gemma Atkinson and Galton Blackiston, and prepares paella, Thai green chicken curry and roasted avocados with prawns. Last in the series.  
 11.20 **Who's Doing the Dishes?** Gemma Bissix plays mystery host to four strangers. (R)  
 12.15 **The Best of the Voice Worldwide.** New series. Highlights of the various worldwide editions of the singing competition, featuring memorable performances, the biggest decisions from the coaches and magical moments.  
 1.15 **ITV News and Weather;** Weather.  
 1.30 **Live French Open Tennis.** John Inverdale presents coverage of the 14th day's play at Roland Garros, featuring the women's singles final in the second Grand Slam tournament of the year.  
 5.00 **The Chase.** Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh. (R)  
 6.00 **ITV News and Weather.**  
 6.15 **ITV News Central;** Weather.  
 6.30 **Ninja Warrior UK.** Competitors test their strength, speed and courage in the final of the obstacle-course challenge, hosted by Ben Shepherd, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara. Last in the series.  
 7.30 **Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule.** An unseen edition featuring the host's favourite moments from series two that did not make the final cut. Featuring Johnny Vegas, Jimmy Osmond and Anneka Rice. Last in the series.  
 8.00 **Take Me Out: Over 50s Special.** Paddy McGuinness hosts a special episode featuring women over 50, with a retired policeman, a hotelier and a dance teacher taking their turn in the love lift.  
 9.00 **FILM: The Hangover (2009).** Three men on a stag weekend in Las Vegas wake up to find they have lost the groom and cannot remember the night before. Comedy, with Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms and Zach Galifianakis.  
 10.55 **ITV News and Weather;** Weather.  
 11.15 **Play to the Whistle.** Holly Willoughby hosts the sports-based panel show, with guests including Frank Lampard, Bradley Walsh, John Terry, Jonnie Peacock and Rachel Riley. (R)  
 12.15 **Jackpot247.** Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.  
 3.00 **Mr Selfridge.** Frank learns he may have been unwittingly complicit in Kitty's attack. Harry realises his feelings for Nancy are stronger than he thought, and Violette makes her move on Victor. (R)

**Live International Rugby Union**

8.10pm

Argentina v Wales (Kick-off 8.40pm). Lee McKenzie presents coverage of the first of two Tests, which takes place at the Estadio San Juan del Bicentenario.

**Channel 4**

- 6.15 **Motor Sport: Mini Challenge.** Action from Snetterton.  
 6.45 **Volkswagen Racing Cup.** Action from Snetterton.  
 7.10 **Triathlon: Swansea.** Action from the sprint distance race.  
 7.40 **Everybody Loves Raymond.** Ray takes an interest in Ally's hobby. (R)  
 8.05 **Everybody Loves Raymond.** Debra surprises the family. (R)  
 8.35 **Fraser.** Daphne hosts a dinner party. (R)  
 9.10 **Fraser.** An attractive gym coach catches Fraser's eye. (R)  
 9.40 **The Big Bang Theory.** The friends cross paths again with Wil Wheaton. (R)  
 10.05 **The Big Bang Theory.** Penny's dad pays a visit. (R)  
 10.35 **The Simpsons.** Grampa boosts Homer's love life. (R)  
 11.05 **The Simpsons.** Homer is given free plane tickets. (R)  
 11.40 **Come Dine with Me.** Four people host dinner parties in and around Belfast. (R)  
 12.40 **Four in a Bed.** The competition kicks off at the White Horse Inn in Maldon, Essex. (R)  
 1.15 **Four in a Bed.** The second visit of the week is to Barnfield B&B in St Osyth, Essex. (R)  
 1.45 **Four in a Bed.** The contestants head to The Black Swan Inn in Pickering, Yorkshire. (R)  
 2.20 **Four in a Bed.** The final stay is at Delamere Farm near Peterborough. (R)  
 2.50 **Four in a Bed.** The rival hoteliers discover just how much their guests valued their services. (R)  
 3.20 **A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun.** A musical couple seek a holiday home in Spain. (R)  
 3.50 **A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun.** A couple search for a retirement home on the Caribbean island of St Lucia. (R)  
 4.50 **Kirstie and Phil's Love It or List It.** Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer meet the Tuck family in Long Eaton, Derbyshire. (R)  
 5.50 **Channel 4 News.**  
 6.15 **Grand Designs.** Following the work of Ed and Rowena Waggoner as they continue to build a handcrafted, five-bedroom house in Herefordshire, 10 years in the making. (R)  
 7.10 **The World's Wildest Weather.** Footage of unusual and dangerous weather from around the world, including avalanches and cyclones. Featuring scientific analysis and first-hand accounts of the events featured. (R)  
 8.10 **Live International Rugby Union.** Argentina v Wales (Kick-off 8.40pm). Lee McKenzie presents coverage of the first of two Tests, which takes place at the Estadio San Juan del Bicentenario.  
 10.55 **Formula 1: Canadian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights.** Steve Jones presents action from Montreal, where the grid positions for the seventh round of the season were decided at the Circuit Gilles-Villeneuve.  
 12.25 **FILM: The Watch (2012).** Sci-fi comedy, starring Ben Stiller.  
 2.10 **Hollyoaks.** Omnibus. A social worker visits the Maaliks after allegations of abuse. (R)  
 4.20 **My Kitchen Rules.** (R)  
 5.15 **Kirstie's Handmade Treasures.** (R)  
 5.20 **Fifteen to One.** (R)

**Secrets of Tutankhamun's Treasures**

9pm

Items found in Tutankhamun's tomb that paint a picture of his family, including mummified babies - the offspring of a relationship with his sister.

**Channel 5**

- 6.00 **Milkshake! Little Princess 6.10 Wissper 6.20 Poppy Cat 6.30 Milkshake! Monkey 6.35 The Secret Life of Puppies 6.40 Moxy 6.45 Simon 6.50 Olly the Little White Van 7.00 Peppa Pig 7.05 Paw Patrol 7.20 Thomas & Friends 7.35 Fireman Sam 7.55 Rusty Rivets 8.05 Paw Patrol 8.25 Nella the Princess Knight 8.40 Noddy: Toyland Detective 9.00 Floogals 9.10 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 9.25 Shimmer and Shine 9.45 Digby Dragon 10.05 Peppa Pig Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R)  
**The Gadget Show.** (R)  
 10.45 **Police Interceptors.** A failure to stop turns into a kidnapping. (R)  
 11.30 **Police Interceptors.** A stolen car is recovered on the M11. (R)  
 12.25 **Police Interceptors.** A man is assaulted in the street by his wife. (R)  
 1.25 **Police Interceptors.** A couple seek help when their tenants invite their abusive friends in to squat. (R)  
 2.25 **Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords.** Eviction lawyer Chris has a complex case on his hands involving squatters. (R)  
 3.20 **Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords.** Eviction lawyer Chris has a complex case on his hands involving squatters. (R)  
 4.15 **Rich House, Poor House: The Big Surprise.** Two families from the Newquay area swap homes and budgets for a week. (R)  
 5.15 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** An eviction order presents Steve and Ben with a dilemma. (R)  
 6.10 **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!** Agents try to evict a woman who owes £6,000 in unpaid rent, and meet a man who says he cannot pay a £7,000 debt, despite having a garage full of expensive tools. (R)  
 7.00 **Building the London Underground.** The technologies that have helped make the Tube the second-biggest metro system in the world, from tunnel-boring methods to building vast subterranean stations. (R)  
 7.55 **5 News Weekend.**  
**Secrets of the Valley of the Kings.** An exploration of the Valley of the Kings, the royal necropolis of the pharaohs and the world's most famous royal burial ground. (R)  
 9.00 **Secrets of Tutankhamun's Treasures.** Items found in Tutankhamun's tomb that paint a picture of his family, including mummified babies - the offspring of an incestuous relationship with his sister.  
 10.00 **Alexander the Great's Lost Tomb.** The search for the lost tomb of Alexander the Great, the Macedonian warlord, which has eluded experts for nearly 2,000 years. Archaeologist Dr Nick Saunders follows the clues.  
 11.05 **The Ten Plagues of Egypt: Ancient Mysteries.** How ash from a volcanic eruption may have triggered a deadly domino effect, turning the Nile red and making its waters toxic and explaining the biblical tale of the 10 plagues. (R)  
 12.05 **SuperCasino.**  
 3.10 **The Yorkshire Vet.** (R)  
 4.00 **Secrets of the Chocolate Factory: Inside Cadbury.** (R)  
 4.45 **House Doctor.** (R)  
 5.10 **Divine Designs.** (R)  
 5.35 **Wildlife SOS.** (R)**





## Countryfile

7pm

The last of three royal specials from the Sandringham estate. Matt Baker meets the head gardener to discover how the trees are shaped to look their best in winter.



## Atlanta

10.20pm

Paper Boi secures a gig playing a club, but neither he nor Earn are keen on the prospect, especially when they fall foul of a ruthless promoter unwilling to pay his dues.



## Heathrow: Britain's Busiest Airport

10.20pm

The Border Force pull over a Ghanaian businessman declaring £114,000 in cash. A blind date takes place in the airport.



## Bake Off: The Professionals

8pm

Liam Charles and Tom Allen put the remaining teams to the test with a secret recipe challenge and a chocolate showpiece inspired by the theme of the four seasons.



## Cricket on 5

7pm

Scotland v England. Action from the one-day international, which took place at the Grange in Edinburgh. Moeen Ali scored a century the last time these sides met, during the 2015 World Cup.

## BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast.  
 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show.  
 10.00 **The Big Questions.** Nicky Campbell presents a discussion of whether the liberal world order is coming to an end from Brunel University, London. Last in the series.  
 11.00 **Sunday Politics West Midlands.** The week's events at Westminster, presented by Sarah Smith. Including a regional round-up.  
 12.15 BBC News; Weather.  
 12.30 **Bargain Hunt.** (R)  
 1.00 **Points of View.** Jeremy Vine presents a selection of viewers' comments.  
 1.15 **Lifeline.** Gemma Atkinson presents an appeal on behalf of the British Heart Foundation.  
 1.25 **Songs of Praise.** Aled Jones visits Grenfell Tower 12 months after the fire to discover how the community is coping, while Josie d'Arby reports on a movement in Cornwall set up to help the survivors.  
 2.00 **Britain Celebrates Live: 100 Years of Women's Votes.** Kirsty Young presents coverage of processions in London, Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast celebrating the 100th anniversary of women winning the right to vote.  
 4.00 **Who Do You Think You Are?** Actress Michelle Keegan learns about her great-great-grandmother, who lived in Manchester at the start of the 20th century, unearthing a connection to the suffragettes. (R)  
 5.00 **Britain's Best Home Cook.** The quarter-final sees the contestants create a sharing feast and a dish using squid or mackerel, before the worst cooks prepare a classic chicken recipe in the cook-off. (R)  
 6.00 **Wallace & Gromit: A Close Shave.** Nick Park's animated characters embark on their third adventure, which sees Wallace fall in love and Gromit framed for sheep rustling. (R)  
 6.45 BBC News.  
 6.45 **Midlands Today; Weather.**  
 7.00 **Countryfile.** The last of three royal specials from the Sandringham estate. Matt Baker meets the head gardener to discover how the trees are shaped to look their best in winter.  
 8.00 **Antiques Roadshow.** Fiona Bruce presents a special episode celebrating the 100th anniversary of women winning the vote, examining artefacts connected to remarkable women throughout British history.  
 9.00 **Poldark.** New series. The country is plunged into uncertainty during an election, and a riot erupts in Truro – leaving Zeddy's son accused of murder. BBC News.  
 10.00 **Midlands Today; Weather.**  
 10.20 **Our Friend Victoria.** The comedy of Victoria Wood is celebrated by Julie Walters, with clips and contributions from fellow collaborators including Celia Imrie and Duncan Preston. (R)  
 11.00 **Suffragettes with Lucy Worsley.** The historian examines the battle that women had to wage for the right to vote, following the stories of young working class suffragettes who rebelled against Edwardian society. (R)  
 12.30 Weather for the Week Ahead.  
 12.35 BBC News.

## BBC2

- 6.40 **Gardeners' World.** Monty Don finds places in his borders for bananas and dahlias. (R)  
 7.40 **Countryfile.** A special episode from the royal family's Balmoral estate. (R)  
 8.35 **The Beechgrove Garden.** Revamping the main rhododendron border.  
 9.05 **Saturday Kitchen Best Bites.** Matt Tebbutt presents highlights of the series, recalling his favourite moments from previous years in the kitchen.  
 10.35 **Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge.** With guests Chris Hollins and Angela Hartnett. (R)  
 11.20 **Hairy Bikers' Best of British.** Si King and Dave Myers explore the history of the potato. (R)  
 12.20 **The World Cup: Hopes of a Nation.** A look at England's star players in World Cups.  
 1.00 **Triathlon: World Series – Leeds.** Coverage of the men's and women's elite races at the fourth round of the ITU World Series, which takes place in Leeds.  
 6.00 **Dragons' Den.** The panel assesses the profit-making potential of more business ideas, including a range of language-learning children's books and skin care products made out of hemp. (R)  
 7.00 **Million Pound Menu.** Two more teams seek investment – soul food-inspired takeaway Trap Kitchen, which sells lobster tails, prawns and waffles, and Greedy Khao, a vegan Thai grab-and-go concept. (R)  
 8.00 **Journey in the Danger Zone: Iraq.** Part two of two. Adnan Sarwar joins a party of pilgrims on a journey to the Holy Shrines of Karbala, before visiting a school for children with hearing disabilities in Fallujah.  
 9.00 **Frankie Goes to Russia.** Part two of two. Frankie Boyle meets Russia's leading football historian, discovers how street footballers win sponsorship, and watches a variant of the game played on motorbikes.  
 10.00 **Atlanta.** Paper Boi becomes the hip hop world's poster-child for toxic masculinity and transphobia after he makes some offensive Tweets about Caitlyn Jenner, and ends up on a talk show.  
 10.20 **Atlanta.** Paper Boi secures a gig playing a club, but neither he nor Earn are keen on the prospect, especially when they fall foul of a ruthless promoter unwilling to pay his dues.  
 10.50 **A Girl's Guide to TV.** Comedian Rachel Parris presents a comic guide on how women can get ahead in television, despite in her words "their bodies teeming with pesky oestrogen". (R)  
 11.35 **Athletics: Diamond League Stockholm Highlights.** The Bauhaus-Galan. Action from the sixth Diamond League event of the season, which was held at Stockholm Olympic Stadium.  
 12.35 **Sign Zone: Question Time.** Topical debate from Reading, chaired by David Dimbleby. (R)  
 1.35 **Sign Zone: Holby City.** Jac Naylor is back at the hospital, but her return is not quite what it seems, and tensions mount for Lofty when Dominic makes an announcement. (R)  
 2.35 **This Is BBC2.**

## ITV

- 6.00 **CITV: Sooty 6.10 Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids 6.20 Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids 6.30 Signed Stories: Share a Story 6.35 Dino Dana 6.55 The Oddbods Show 7.05 Star Wars Freemakers Adventures 7.30 The Haunted Hathaways 7.55 Drop Dead Weird**  
 8.25 **ITV News.**  
 8.30 **Zoe Ball On Sunday.** With guests Alex James, Tony Hadley, David Morgan and Lucy Liu.  
 9.25 **The Queen's Coronation in Colour.** Alexander Armstrong looks back on the coronation. (R)  
 10.20 **How to Spend It Well: House and Garden with Phillip Schofield.** Phillip road-tests and reviews some of the most sought-after items for the house and garden this summer, assisted by his wife Steph, celebrities and members of the public. (R)  
 11.20 **The Best of the Voice Worldwide.** Worldwide editions of the singing competition.  
 12.20 **ITV News and Weather.** Weather.  
 12.30 **Ninja Warrior UK.** Obstacle-course challenge, with Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara. (R)  
 1.30 **Live French Open Tennis.** John Inverdale presents coverage of the 15th day's play at Roland Garros, featuring the men's singles final in the second Grand Slam tournament of the year.  
 5.30 **Harry Hill's Alien Fun Capsule.** An unseen edition featuring the host's favourite moments that did not make the cut. Last in the series. (R)  
 6.00 **ITV News and Weather.**  
 6.15 **ITV News Central; Weather.**  
 6.30 **Soccer Aid for UNICEF 2018.** England v World XI (Kick-off 8.00pm). Kirsty Gallacher and Dermot O'Leary host live coverage of the charity football match, held at Old Trafford. Subsequent programmes subject to change.  
 10.00 **ITV News and Weather.**  
 10.20 **Heathrow: Britain's Busiest Airport.** The Border Force pull over a Ghanaian businessman declaring £114,000 in cash. A blind date takes place in the airport. (R)  
 10.50 **Football's Foreign Legion.** Forty years on from the first wave of foreign footballers, this is the story of those pioneering players and their legacy.  
 11.50 **Great Art.** Tim Marlow reflects on the American Impressionist movement, which was inspired by great French masters including Claude Monet. Narrated by Gillian Anderson. Last in the series. (R)  
 12.45 **Jackpot247.** Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.  
 3.00 **Motorsport UK.** Action from Donington Park, featuring round four of the Renault UK Clio Cup and the sixth round of the Ginetta GT4 Supercup. commentary by Richard John Neil. (R)  
 3.50 **ITV Nightscreen.** Text-based information service.  
 5.05 **The Jeremy Kyle Show.** The host invites guests to air their differences over family and relationship issues, and provides them with his own brand of no-nonsense advice. (R)

## Channel 4

- 6.15 **The King of Queens.** Arthur buys a headstone. (R)  
 6.40 **The King of Queens.** Doug embarrasses Carrie at her boss's party. (R)  
 7.05 **The King of Queens.** Doug goes clay pigeon shooting with Tim. (R)  
 7.30 **Eat the Week.** Simon Rimmer provides recipes for affordable meals. (R)  
 8.30 **Fraser.** Daphne's mother infuriates Martin. (R)  
 9.00 **Fraser.** Martin dispenses advice. (R)  
 9.30 **Sunday Brunch.** With guests Tony Hadley, Alexander Vlahos, Lily Allen, Mollie King and Matt Edmondson.  
 12.30 **Bake Off: The Professionals.** The teams put a modern spin on a classic French pastry. (R)  
 1.30 **The Simpsons.** Homer becomes head of a secret society. (R)  
 2.00 **The Simpsons.** Homer recalls Maggie's birth. (R)  
 2.30 **FILM: Volcano (1997).** Disaster thriller, starring Tommy Lee Jones.  
 4.35 **Location, Location, Location.** Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer help house-hunters in Bath. (R)  
 5.35 **Bang on Budget.** New series. Home makeover series presented by Lucy Alexander and builder Harry Hoffen.  
 6.30 **Channel 4 News.**  
 7.00 **Escape to the Chateau.** Dick and Angel look ahead to wedding season, with eight couples booking the chateau for their big day. Dick also converts a barn into a flat for Angel's parents. Last in the series. (R)  
 8.00 **Bake Off: The Professionals.** Liam Charles and Tom Allen put the remaining teams to the test with a secret recipe challenge and a chocolate showpiece inspired by the theme of the four seasons.  
 9.00 **The Handmaid's Tale.** A baby shower provokes a troubling shift in Offred's relationship with Serena Joy.  
 10.10 **8 Out of 10 Cats.** Aisling Bea is joined by Joel Dommett and James Acaster, while Rob Beckett teams up with Joe Swash and Roisin Conaty to discuss memorable moments from school. Jimmy Carr hosts. (R)  
 10.40 **Formula 1: Canadian Grand Prix Highlights.** Action from the seventh round of the season at Circuit Gilles Villeneuve in Montreal. Lewis Hamilton was looking for a fourth successive victory in this race and seventh overall.  
 12.40 **FILM: The Man with the Iron Fists (2012).** A blacksmith in feudal China defends his village as feuding clans of warriors fight over a shipment of gold. Martial arts adventure, starring RZA, Russell Crowe and Lucy Liu.  
 2.15 **Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners.** Some of the UK's most obsessive cleaners head stateside to clean America's mess, with two cleaners staying with their host and immersing themselves in the local culture. (R)  
 3.10 **Building the Dream.** Charlie Luxton helps Alan and Lucy Brown to build an upside-down house in Fife with stunning views of the Forth Bridge, but the budget struggles to keep pace with the build. (R)  
 4.05 **My Kitchen Rules.** A menu that celebrates the very best of Welsh produce. (R)

## Channel 5

- 6.00 **Milkshake!** Little Princess 6.10 Wissper 6.20 Poppy Cat 6.30 Milkshake! Monkey 6.35 The Secret Life of Puppies 6.40 Moxy 6.45 Simon 6.50 Olly the Little White Van 7.00 Peppa Pig 7.05 Paw Patrol 7.15 Thomas & Friends 7.35 Fireman Sam 7.50 Rusty Rivets 8.05 Paw Patrol 8.20 Nella the Princess Knight 8.35 Noddy: Toyland Detective 8.55 Floogals 9.05 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 9.20 Shimmer and Shine 9.40 Digby Dragon 9.55 Peppa Pig 10.00 Peppa Pig
- 10.10 **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.** Renet transports the team to Transylvania to stop Savanti Romero from recruiting Dracula. (R)  
 10.45 **Pets Make You Laugh Out Loud 2.** A compilation of animal antics. (R)  
 11.10 **Police Interceptors.** An inspector tries to stop a man committing suicide. (R)  
 12.05 **Police Interceptors.** Using automatic number-plate recognition to identify stolen vehicles. (R)  
 1.05 **Police Interceptors.** Officers hunt for a thief who stole a 4x4. (R)  
 2.05 **FILM: Holes (2003).** Family adventure, starring Shia LaBeouf.  
 3.05 **Access.** Showbiz news and gossip.  
 3.10 **FILM: Holes (2003).** Concluded.  
 4.30 **FIA Formula E Live.** The Zurich ePrix.  
 4.55 **World's Scariest Animal Attacks 2.** Terrifying animal encounters caught on camera, including the moment sharks turned on a free-diving father and son, and a 500lb elephant seal that reacted violently when intimidated. (R)  
 7.00 **Cricket on 5.** Scotland v England. Action from the one-day international, which took place at the Grange in Edinburgh.  
 7.55 **5 News Weekend.**  
 8.00 **The Yorkshire Steam Railway: All Aboard.** Life on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway, following an eventful week during which plans are made to welcome star steam engine Royal Scot to the heritage railway. (R)  
 9.00 **The Yorkshire Steam Railway: All Aboard.** The start of the Easter timetable at the North Yorkshire Moors Railway finds marketing manager Laura devising a stunt to capitalise on the Tour de Yorkshire cycling race. (R)  
 10.00 **Top of the Box 1978 with Matthew Kelly.** The presenter takes a look back at the most popular TV from 1978, where hits included The Sweeney and All Creatures Great and Small. Last in the series.  
 12.05 **The Best of Bad TV: The 70s.** A trawl through the programmes of the decade, featuring clips of car-crash interviews, terrifying children's dramas, hoaxes and baffling game shows. (R)  
 1.55 **SuperCasino.** Live interactive gaming.  
 3.10 **Mid-Air Mayhem: Flights Out of Control.** Passengers describe being trapped on a plane with a burning wing. (R)  
 4.00 **Cruising with Jane McDonald.** The presenter heads to Alaska, America's largest state. (R)  
 4.45 **House Doctor.** A converted chapel in Yeovil, Somerset. (R)  
 5.10 **Divine Designs.** Paul Binski chronicles the history of Britain's religious art. (R)  
 5.35 **Wildlife SOS.** (R)



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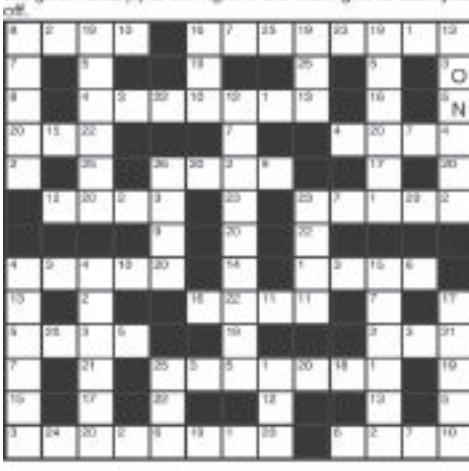
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## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

A	K	B	J	G	F	E	W	V	D	Y	H	T	S	U
N	S	Q	I	O	M	C	R	X	P	Z	L	U		

## Quiz

- Which former political leader's middle name is Polholaha?
- Which US weekly magazine was founded in 1925 by Harold Ross?
- What type of creature is the bushmaster?
- Which river flows through Lake Constance?
- In which year was the first EC passport introduced?
- What is the official report of the proceedings of the British Parliament called?
- Which English medal was issued in 1588?
- Who wrote *Saints Street and Whisky Galore*?
- In which country is El Llaima volcano, which erupted in 1984?
- What is the highest rank in the RAF?

## Double Crossword

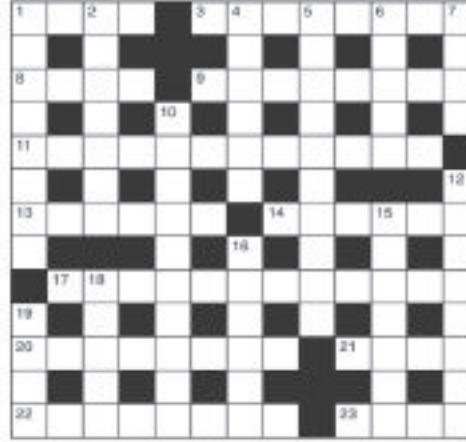
Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

## Cryptic Clues:

## Across

- Presumably not an ailment of tropical climates (4)
- Crude to a teacher (6)
- One only conceals a form of lighting (4)
- Dot back into Parliament (8)
- Bad narrative from inferior member of family (4,8)
- Sailor gets a severe telling off (8)
- More coarse-sounding shopkeeper (6)
- Unequalled performance from a jailbird? (6,6)
- Arrange prim seal for prelates (8)
- Metal from La Paz in current use (4)
- Is deeper and harder (6)
- Old and greyer every-day initially (4)
- Plot to get 100 to top of high part of church (8)
- Beware of the sentry (4,3)
- Lines where there are 600 sources of water (6)
- Legal compulsion to be a sailor? (5,6)
- Dance to remove the effects of sunbathing? (5)
- Dupes are taken for such a journey (4)
- Where spectators witness tremendous resistance? (10)
- Manufactured to a greater extent? (6)
- Boasting 100 at the oasis? (7)
- Where to be an essential part? (6)
- Lift up, but don't quite command (5)
- Work involved in preparing soup (4)
- Willful (8)
- Room (7)
- Aviator (6)
- Creature of prey (8)
- Disconcerting (12)
- Rigorous (6)
- Suitable (6)
- Slander (4,8)
- Prolonged (8)
- Labyrinth (6)
- Beset (8)
- Minus (4)

## Down



## Quick Clues:

## Across

- Agreement (4)
- Humidity (8)
- Genuine (4)
- Creature of prey (8)
- Manufactured to a greater extent? (6)
- Boasting 100 at the oasis? (7)
- Where to be an essential part? (6)
- Lift up, but don't quite command (5)
- Work involved in preparing soup (4)
- Willful (8)
- Room (7)
- Aviator (6)
- Creature of prey (8)
- Disconcerting (12)
- Rigorous (6)
- Suitable (6)
- Slander (4,8)
- Prolonged (8)
- Labyrinth (6)
- Beset (8)
- Minus (4)

## Down

- Agreement (4)
- Humidity (8)
- Genuine (4)
- Creature of prey (8)
- Manufactured to a greater extent? (6)
- Boasting 100 at the oasis? (7)
- Where to be an essential part? (6)
- Lift up, but don't quite command (5)
- Work involved in preparing soup (4)
- Willful (8)
- Room (7)
- Aviator (6)
- Creature of prey (8)
- Disconcerting (12)
- Rigorous (6)
- Suitable (6)
- Slander (4,8)
- Prolonged (8)
- Labyrinth (6)
- Beset (8)
- Minus (4)

## Sudoku

3	8	9	5					
5		1		7				
4	5	6						
1		8		2	6			
2	5	1	7					
4	6	7		9				
5		9						
2		9	5	4				
1	7	6	2					

FILL IN THE GRID ABOVE SO THAT EVERY COLUMN, EVERY ROW AND EACH OF THE 3x3 BOXES CONTAINS ALL THE DIGITS FROM 1 TO 9.

5	8	4	9	2	3	1	6	7
9	2	4	1	3	8	5	7	6
8	5	3	7	5	6	2	9	4
7	8	6	2	1	5	3	4	9
3	4	9	1	8	6	2	7	5
2	3	1	0	7	3	8	4	9
6	8	5	4	9	7	1	0	1
4	7	6	0	6	1	9	8	2
1	3	9	2	6	7	4	6	5

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Stage-right; 9 Present; 10 Guide; 11 Rhine; 12 Outpost; 13 Abreast; 15 Grille; 16 Fairway; 20 Flute; 22 Rose; 23 Overall; 24 Newmarket; Down: 2 Sheet; 3 Guess; 4 Fathom; 5 Ingot; 6 Hairline; 7 Sceptre; 8 Bedrock; 9 Pudding; 14 Resist; 15 Reflect; 17 Plywood; 21 Lure; QUICK - Across: 1 Overturning; 9 Grate; 10 Demon; 11 Thorne; 12 Bander; 13 Utens; 15 Placed; 17 Thorne; 20 Appeal; 22 Voice; 23 Nosed; 24 Interrogative; Down: 2 Varge; 3 Refresh; 4 Cess; 5 Noddy; 6 Nomadic; 7 Relentless; 8 Incubity; 14 Iordan; 16 Luskgate; 17 Amende; 18 Saws; 21 Press.

## Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

612259  
347852  
89562

gives a tool  
gives a second tool  
gives an alloy.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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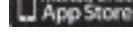
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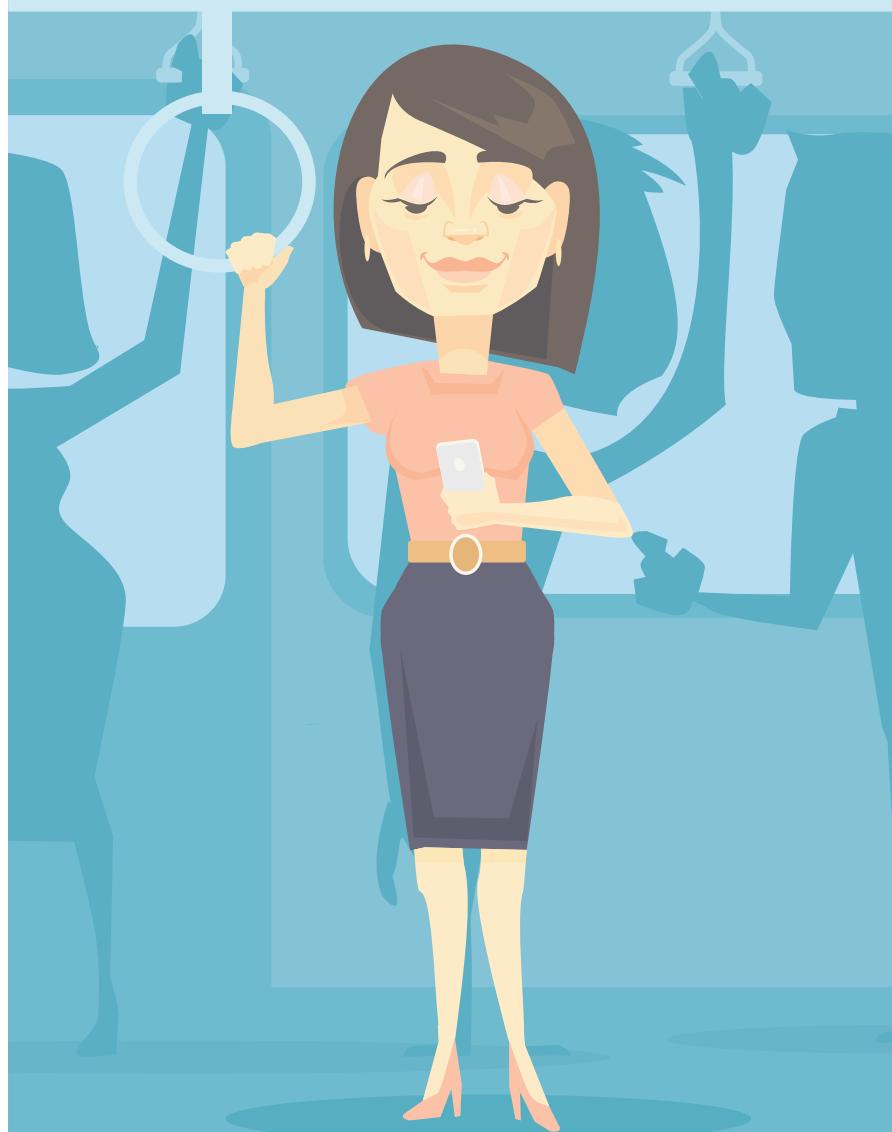
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**Closing Date: 21st June 2018**

# Qashqai still out there as a benchmark

By Graham Breeze

We've become a motoring nation obsessed with the Crossover sector and all the leading manufacturers are trying to catch up with Nissan and the outstanding Qashqai.

You only have to look at what's happened in the design studios of Mazda, Seat and Peugeot to appreciate how important this group is and while CX-5, Ateca and 3008 have all clearly become contenders there's little doubt that Nissan is still dealing the best hand with Qashqai.

There are five well equipped trim levels available, Visia, Acetra, N-Connecta, Tenka and the flagship Tenka+ which we have just put through its paces with an on-the-road price of just over £30,000.

It's the all-round deal that is keeping Qashqai ahead of the game and there are more than one or two aces in the pack to ensure none of the rivals in the game can fully trump this offering. Qashqai may not handle as well as some of the rivals but it's certainly more spacious and comfortable and comes with outstanding economy.

Tenka+ is powered by a 1461cc diesel engine with a six-speed manual box helping produce a top speed of 113mph and 0-62mph in 11.9 seconds but it's the combined fuel consumption figure of 74.3mpg that really catches the eye, along with impressive CO2 emissions of just 99g/km.

The Qashqai is a good looker. It stands on stunning 19 inch diamond cut alloys and comes with body coloured bumpers and handles, chrome glass surround, silver roof rails, a matte black rear diffuser, a panoramic glass sunroof, rear privacy glass, roof spoiler, silver rear styling plate and a V-Motion front



You'll be impressed with the interior

grille. And you can't help being impressed once inside the cabin too. Black leather trim with 3D quilting and a carbon-effect dashboard trim are joined by chrome door handles, memory function door mirrors, a D-shaped leather steering wheel, electrically adjusted lumbar support, electric driver seat with memory function, electric passenger seat, Monoform sports seats and a leather gear lever.

A lot of things you normally pay for as extra come as part of the package. These include folding door mirrors, auto wipers, colour front, side and rear cameras, speed sensitive steering, heated front seats, stop/start, automatic dipping, rear seat armrests and cup holders and split folding rear seats.

There's one of the best sound systems you'll encounter on a car at this level with an AM/FM/CD audio system with DAB radio linked to NissanConnect and Bluetooth to keep you in touch while on the move. The navigation and entertainment system is displayed neatly on a seven inch screen.

The great-looking panoramic glass sunroof does eat into a bit of head room but not



The Qashqai is a good looker. It stands on stunning 19 inch diamond cut alloys and comes with body coloured bumpers and handles.

enough for you to be too bothered because like all crossovers the Qashqai stands high.

Crossover owners tend to need every inch of available space to tuck away the essentials for that long journey and they won't be disappointed. There are useful storage points and while not a fan of the automatic handbrake its absence does create even more room for the odds and ends.

Security and safety figures highly. You get ABS with EBD brake assist, chassis control, all-round airbags, stability programme, engine immobiliser, electric parking brake, puncture repair kit, rear door childlocks, central locking, blind spot warning, rear cross traffic alert and moving object detection. A smart vision pack comes as standard on this model offering anti-dazzle rear mirror, traffic sign recognition,

high beam assist, lane departure warning, emergency braking and front and rear parking sensors. You also get a Thatcham alarm system and tyre pressure monitoring.

Putting things into perspective means the Qashqai is still out there as the benchmark for all the rest and the bosses at Nissan are determined to keep on dealing the best the game has to offer.

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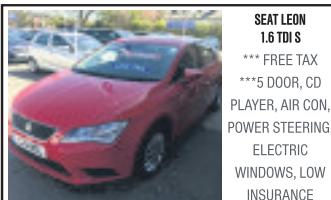
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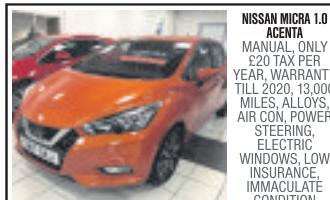
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## MOTORING

# New petrol option for DS7 Crossback



More choice of engines for the new DS 7 Crossback

Buyers in the market for a new DS 7 Crossback now have more choice when it comes to powertrains, thanks to the addition of a petrol engine to the SUV's range.

The French machine is now available with PSA's PureTech 225 turbocharged four-cylinder petrol engine, which currently sees action in the Peugeot 308. It's paired with an eight-speed automatic gearbox and develops 222bhp along with 300Nm of torque.

It'll take the DS 7 Crossback from 0-60mph in 8.1 seconds and on to a top speed of 141mph. As for efficiency, a number of technologies feature on the powertrain to help keep fuel economy high and emissions low.

These include the addition of a particulate filter and 'ECO' function on the gearbox that allows for free-wheeling between 12 and 80mph. The result is a claimed 48.7mpg on a combined cycle with CO2 emissions of 135g/km.

Available to order now, the PureTech 225 engine is offered on Prestige, Ultra Prestige and Performance Line trims of the DS 7 Crossback — with prices starting at £34,990.

There's another powertrain to come for the French SUV, too. It'll be a petro-electric hybrid, sending 296bhp through all four wheels.

Full information on this electrified set-up will be revealed in due course.

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## Birmingham & District Premier Cricket League

### Premier Division 1st XI

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Shrewsbury	6	5	0	1	0	0	114
Knowle & D.	6	4	0	1	0	1	89
WB Dartmouth	6	3	1	1	0	1	85
Dorridge	6	3	0	2	0	1	74
Moseley	6	3	0	3	0	0	74
Smethwick	6	3	0	2	0	1	74
Berkswell	6	2	1	2	0	1	71
Ombersley	6	1	2	2	0	1	56
Walsall	6	2	0	3	0	1	56
Kenilworth W.	6	1	1	3	0	1	48
Wolverhampton	6	1	0	4	0	1	42
Barnet Green	6	0	1	4	0	1	33

### Division One 1st XI

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Tamworth	6	5	0	0	0	1	105
Kidderminster	6	4	0	2	0	0	89
Shifnal	6	4	0	2	0	0	85
Leamington	6	2	1	2	0	1	74
Hinley	6	3	1	1	0	1	73
Bridgnorth	6	2	1	3	0	0	66
Halesowen	6	2	0	3	0	1	64
Bromsgrove	6	2	0	3	0	1	59
Barnards Green	6	2	1	2	0	1	55
Oswestry	6	1	1	3	0	1	50
Brockhampton	6	1	0	4	0	1	45
Wellington	6	1	1	4	0	0	43

### Division Two 1st XI

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Penkridge	6	3	0	1	1	1	85
Harborne	6	2	2	1	0	1	76
Wombourne	6	3	0	3	0	0	76
Fordhouses	6	2	0	3	1	0	74
C & R Hawks	6	3	0	2	0	1	73
Walmley	6	3	0	2	0	1	72
Pershore	6	3	0	2	0	1	70
Coventry & N.W.	6	2	1	2	0	1	57
Streetly	6	2	0	3	0	1	57
Attock	6	1	1	3	0	1	56
Astwood Bank	6	1	0	4	0	1	36

### Division Three 1st XI

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Rugby	6	5	0	0	0	1	109
Stourbridge	6	5	0	0	0	1	105
Stratford-Upon-Avon	6	4	0	1	0	1	92
Old Hill	6	3	0	2	0	1	75
Handsworth	6	2	0	2	0	2	59
Lichfield	6	2	0	4	0	1	58
Pelsall	6	2	0	3	0	1	57
Redditch	6	1	1	3	0	1	54
Old Elizabethans	6	2	0	3	0	1	50
Miford Hall	6	1	0	4	0	1	44
Whitchurch	6	1	1	3	0	1	42
Newport	6	1	0	4	0	1	38

### Premier Division 2nd XI

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Wolverhampton	6	4	0	0	2	0	94
Leamington	6	4	0	1	0	1	93
Shifnal	6	4	1	0	0	1	92
Knowle & D.	6	2	1	2	0	1	68
Tamworth	6	2	0	3	0	1	62
Walmley	6	2	0	3	0	1	62
Kenilworth W.	6	2	0	2	0	2	61
Moseley	6	2	0	3	0	1	59
Attock	6	1	1	3	0	1	54
Brockhampton	6	2	0	3	0	1	54
Harborne	6	1	1	3	0	1	43
Hinley	6	1	0	4	0	1	40

### Division One 2nd XI

	P	W	D	L	T	A	P
Bromsgrove	6	5	0	0	1	109	
Halesowen	6	4	0	1	0	1	94
Walsall	6	4	0	2	0	0	93
Barnet Green	6	3	0	2	0	1	89
WB Dartmouth	6	3	0	2	0	1	76
Penkridge	6	2	1	2	0	1	74
Shrewsbury	6	1	1	3	0	1	56
Astwood Bank	6	2	0	3	0	1	55
Old Hill	6	2	0	3	0	1	54
Smethwick	6	2	1	2	0	1	54
C & R Hawks	6	2	0	3	0	1	54
Wellington	6	2	0	3	1	0	60
Miford Hall	6	2	0	3	0	1	59
Lichfield	6	2	0	3	0	1	57
Quatt	6	1	1	1	1	1	57
Bonner Heath	6	2	0	2	1	1	64
Worlidge	6	1	1	4	0	1	33
Frankton	6	1	0	4	0	1	33
Wellington	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Frankton	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Llewellyn	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Frankton	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Llewellyn	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Bonner Heath	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Worlidge	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Montgomery	6	1	0	4	0	1	32
Shifnal	6</td						

## The best of British heading to Loton Park

Loton Park Hill Climb hosts rounds of both the British and Midland Championships this weekend, June 9-10, where south Shropshire's reigning champion Trevor Willis has only a small lead in the retention of his British title.

Follow Shropshire driver Andy Griffiths of Market Drayton leads the highly competitive Midland Championship points table in his Hayabusa-engined Caterham Seven.

However reigning and multiple former champion Mike Turpin of Hereford is close behind while George Harding leads the Under-25 class in his Mitsubishi EVO and Richard Jones heads the Over-60 class in his Brabham BT 29X.

With the best drivers and cars from across the UK entered competition will be fierce in the unlimited category while around 20 cars are entered into the closely fought 1100cc racing car class, together with large entries in the other racing car classes.

The Formula Ford class for more traditional racing cars is seeing resurgence with ten cars entered and the event is also hosting a wide range of Boxster, Cayman and 911 models competing in the Porsche Club Championship.

A full entry of sports, classics, saloon and racing cars will compete against the clock up the tight and demanding tarmac course through the stately home deer park of Loton Park at Alberbury, near Shrewsbury, on both Saturday and Sunday.

Shropshire drivers entered include Edward Cottam of Telford in an MG ZR, Rob Wilson of Ludlow in a Peugeot 205 GTi, Peter Taylor of Whitchurch in a Porsche 718, Andrew Collins of Shrewsbury in a Rover Metro, Tim Higgins of Oswestry in a Westfield SEi, Martin Jones of Tenbury Wells in a Force PT, Bernie Kevill of Ludlow in an OMS 28, Tony Adams of Bridgnorth in a Lotus Elise and Jonathan Varley of Wellington in a GWR Predator.

Practice and qualifying takes place on both days, followed by timed competition runs in program order, with two Top 12 run-offs for the fastest British Championship competitors at the end of both the morning and afternoon sessions on Sunday.

## Shropshire Cricket Lge fixture list

### Saturday

Premier division: Worfield vs Bomer Heath, Cound vs Ludlow, Madeley vs Franklin, Wem vs Sentinel Quatt vs Newtown, St Georges NG.

Division one: Beacon vs Wroxeter and Uppington, Welshpool vs Alberbury, Shilton vs Forton, Albrighton vs Market Drayton, Allscott Heath vs Condover, Pontesbury vs Knockin and Kinnerley.

Division two: Bishop's Castle vs Church Aston, Montgomery vs Ludlow 3, Ellesmere vs Willey, Shrewsbury 3 vs Lilleshall, Wheaton Aston vs Wellington 3, Sentinel 3 vs HPC.

Division three: Hopton vs Iscoyd and Fanns Bank, Harper's vs Col. Gis. Acton Reynald vs Calverhall, St Georges 3 vs Prees, Much Wenlock vs Chelmarsh, Overton on Dee vs Church Stretton.

Division four: Beacon 3 vs Column, Coton Hall vs Bridgnorth 3, Gainsfield vs Trysull and Seisdon, Llanidloes vs Oswestry 3, Corvedale vs Harcourt, Quasidey NG.

### Second teams

Division one: Frankton 2 vs Shelton 2, Alberbury 2 vs Montgomery 2, Knockin and Kinnerley 2 vs Quatt 2, Wellington 4 vs St Georges 2, Sentinel 2 vs Wem 2, Wroxeter and Uppington 2 vs Worfield 2.

Division two: Willey 2 vs Madeley 2, Ludlow 2 vs Cound 2, Newtown 2 vs Shifnal 4, Broseley vs Allscott Heath 2, Lilleshall 2 vs Acton Reynald 2, Bomer Heath 2 vs Beacon 2.

Division three: Cae Glas 2 vs Welshpool 2, Iscoyd and Fanns Bank 2 vs Ellesmere 2, Condover 2 vs St Georges 4, Market Drayton 2 vs Much Wenlock 2, Lilleshall 4 vs Corvedale 2, Forton 2 vs Bishop's Castle 2, Quatt 3 vs Albrighton 2, Allscott Heath 3 vs Pontesbury 2.

### Sunday

Division one: Pontesbury 3 vs Newport 3, Wem 3 vs Cound 3, Worfield 3 vs Frankton 3, Sentinel 3 vs Wellington, Shrewsbury 4 vs Lilleshall 4 vs Kinnerley 3 NG.

Division two: Bomer Heath 3 vs Ludlow 4, Bridgnorth 4 vs Alberbury 3, Madeley 3 vs Knockin and Kinnerley 4, Wellington 6 vs Oswestry 4, Whitchurch 3 vs Madeley 4.

# Hotel's late check-out gives them win at Castle

### Division one

**PONTESBURY 12 (246) Meole A 2 (158):** John Coxill 21-16 and Ian Beaman won 21-20 for Meole as the Nags racked up a big win with Neil Edwards 21-9 and Ant Price 21-2.

**Elephant & Castle 12 (239) Telepost 2 (182):** Captain Rob Jones 21-14 and Hayden Lewis taking a good scalp 21-15 for the visitors as the Ele also picked up big points with Richard Leah 21-8 and Will Tyler 21-9.

**Castlefields 11 (220) Ludlow Castle 2 (210):** The Castle got off to a flier and led 3-1 with Nick Beard 21-9, Rich Lane 21-10 and Simon Lane 21-12 and losing the other to 20, however the Fields took the last eight games with Russ Pugh 21-12 but only 10 on the agg.

**Bishop's Castle 6 (211) Prince Hotel 8 (222):** A cracking

### TANNERS SHROPSHIRE BOWLS by Cornerman

game at the Castle with the front four games shared as Wayne Pugh won 21-9 for the hosts who then led 5-3 after the middle but the Hotel took three at the end with Rob Jones and Ian Marshall both 21-7 took the agg points.

**Battlefield 9 (210) Hanwood 5 (180):** This was a steady home win for the Lions who had Harry Ryder 21-7 at the start – but this was bettered at the end with Sam Cartwright 21-3 and Andy Selley 21-4. Ben Talbot was in top form for Hanwood with a 21-5 victory.

**Whittington 5 (191) Ifton 9 (222):** A rare away win for the Ifton in this derby game as Dave Hughes had a great 21-2 backed

up by Megis Phillips and Gary Wilkie with 21-10 wins, for WCC Aled Davies 21-11.

### Division two

**Unison 10 (225) Frankwell 4 (166):** This turned out to be a very good win for Unison on a holding green with four single figure wins the best Phil Tyler 21-4 while for the Borough Dillwyn Edwards 21-8.

**Burway 8 (225) Hadnall 6 (197):** A great six points for Hadnall with Mike Thomas 21-8 and 3 x 21-20 wins, for Burway Simon Parsonage and Steve Dovey 21-8.

**Prince Hotel 9 (210) Oswestry Church 5 (206):** A good performance by the Church who had Steve Lewis a cut above his opponent with 21-4 while the Hotel pinched two games 21-20 and had Peter "The Gent" Thomas sweeping in 21-7.

**Craven Arms 5 (205) Bicton A 9 (217):** Bicton took advantage of the holding green with seven winners, Paul Ashworth their top man 21-7 and Andy Gale 21-8, for the Arms William Hough 21-6.

**Shelton Village 4 (185) Meole**

**Brace Village 10 (208):** This Villagers battle went to the visitors who had big wins for Martin Stott 21-7 and Dave "Itchy" Pritchard 21-8 while for Shelton Brian Selly was nearly perfect with 21-1.

**Bagley 7 (204) Wem BC 7 (204):** The perfect draw with games shared and the aggregate equal. John Lovett and Andy Barnes both won 21-8 for the hosts and Gary Poutney replied with 21-7.

### Advantage

**Wem USC 99 (233) Albert Road BC 5 (156):** A 77 chalk win for the United Services Club but Albert Road still took five useful points, saving their best to the end with Sue Hill 21-14. The hosts had six five figure winners with Gary Wall and George Williams sharing the sweep with cards of 21-4.

**Bayston Hill 8 (231) Elephant & Castle 6 (186):** Ray Sant 21-5 and Ruth Richards 21-6 gave the Hillbills the overall advantage as the visiting Ele B side had six winners, including Mal Wilde winning the veterans' game 21-12 at the start.

## Hanwood up third third after big win

HANWOOD are flying high in third spot in the Salop Premier Bowling League ahead of Friday's trip to Boving, writes STUART DUNN.

The villagers swept aside Burway 11-3 (agg 62) in the latest round of matches and lead the way as one of three clubs locked together on 77 points – 14 points adrift of leaders Newport. Darren Wellings was the star turn for Hanwood in their latest win, ousting Ben Allen 21-3.

There were also single figure wins, both 21-9, for home duo Glynn Wellings and Dave Burton.

**CASTLEFIELDS** are one of the teams level on points with Hanwood after going down 10-4 (agg 26) at table-toppers Newport.

Michael Beer maintained his 100 per cent premier division record this season for the reigning champions with a 21-13 card against Tom Langford as he was the Shrewsbury side's best winner.

There were also away wins for Adrian Rowe 21-16, Keith Walton 21-19 and Andy Duckett, who edged home 21-20 against Mick Jones.

FIELDS take on Ifton at Queen Street on Friday night.

**MOELE BRACE** are eighth in the table following a 7-5 (agg 32) verdict at home to Boving. Nigel Bound led the way for Meole with a 21-6 beating of Philip Jones junior. Then came 21-8 victories for Andy Wigginton and Mark Thomas.

Next up for Meole on Friday evening is a trip to Whitchurch to face **CHESTER ROAD**, who are three places and four points below them after seeing off St Georges 8-6 (agg 15) in north Shropshire.

Les Markham was the pick of the six winners for the Roaders with a 21-7 success over Peter Grimston. Alan Purcell, who prevailed 21-11, was next best.

Ninth-placed **WEM USC**, who are at home to Hammer, the division's backmarkers, on Friday, were beaten 11-3 (agg 41) at Byley.

Chris Brettell was Wem's biggest winner, accounting for James Duce 21-10, with the other away victors Curtis Metcalfe 21-13 and Steve Cox 21-18.

# Three-day bike race proves big success

### CYCLING by Stuart Dunn

ORGANISERS have hailed the inaugural Giro Del Mon, a three-day cycling race in the Shropshire countryside, a great success with competitors from all over the United Kingdom taking part.

They have received dozens of messages of support from riders and spectators asking for it to return next year.

One of the highlights of the event was a day of racing at RAF Shawbury to celebrate the RAF's 100 year anniversary.

The event was hosted by Shrewsbury based Rhino Velo Race Team and organised by Chris Pook of Estate Agents Cooper Green Pooks and Ben Lawrence, of Beaumont Lawrence Chartered Insurance Brokers.

The overall elite event was won by Louis Szymanski, 26, from Manchester, riding for Giant Sheffield, while the support event was won by Sam Marshall, 21 and from Cheshire, riding for Frodsham Wheelers.

Pook, who also took part in the Elite race, said: "We were really pleased by the high quality racing and delighted that the overall result for both events was decided on the final stage and saw only a handful of seconds separate the podium positions.

"It really validates the process we went through in trying to design a stage race that remained exciting until the very end. Although both very tired, we are not put off the idea of organising the event again."

Two separate races took place over the weekend. The flagship event was the Giro Del Mon, supported by Pro Vision Clothing. This was classed as a National B event and was open to 20 teams of four riders with either Elite, 1st, 2nd or 3rd category on their licence. Teams took part from Scotland, Wales and various corners of England.

The second event was the Giro Del Mon Support Race, which was open to individual riders with either 3rd or 4th category on their licence. The event was a Regional B event and was held over three stages.

Saturday's racing began with a Team Time Trial for the Elite race up Hope Valley just outside Minsterley.

It was won by Assos Team Wales, which included reigning National Hill Climb champion Dan Evans, who completed the 6.63km in 11



Liam Holohan of Rhino Velo Race Team winning the final stage on the Stiperstones. ■ Pic Elliot Jones.

minutes and 19 seconds. Only seven seconds covered the top four teams, which included Shrewsbury's very own Rhino Velo Race Team.

On Sunday, the event moved to RAF Shawbury. Riders faced an Individual Time Trial around the airfield perimeter road. This was won by Alex Dalton, of Wheelbase Castelli MGD, who completed the 4.92km distance in six minutes and 11 seconds.

Rhino Velo's Kirk Vickers came third in the time trial, completing it in six minutes and 27 seconds.

In the afternoon, the Elite riders faced a 70km 'Kermesse' on a 10km pan flat course laid out across the airfield. Matt Clarke of Halesowen A & CC won the stage solo just ahead of his team mate Charles Walker in a time of one hour, 34 minutes and 48 seconds.

Rhino Velo Race Team's Matthew Garthwaite and Kirk Vickers placed fourth and fifth respectively and Pook came in 13th having made it into the break away.

The final stage set off from Minsterley Parish Hall on Monday and, after four gruelling ascents of the Stiperstones and 80 miles, it was won by Shrewsbury rider Liam Holohan, of Rhino Velo Race team, who crossed the line in just under three hours, ahead of Cameron Biddle from Halesowen Cycling Club.

It was not enough to unseat Szymanski, who crossed in fifth place and finished 14 seconds ahead of Liam, who was third overall, and 11 seconds ahead of his Cycling Sheffield Giant Sheffield team-mate, Kieran Savage, who was second overall and also won the U23 and KOM competition.



Craig Nicholson from Craven Arms. ■ Pic: Richard Dawson.

## Wheelchair tennis event proves another smash hit

### TENNIS by Stuart Dunn

MORE than 40 players, including a number of newcomers to the sport, ensured the Shrewsbury Summer Open Wheelchair Tennis Tournament was a big hit.

Players travelled from across the country to compete on The Shrewsbury Club's indoor courts in last weekend's event, which is part of the Roma Sport National Wheelchair Tennis Series and supported by the Tennis Foundation.

"It went very well," said Scott Smith, one of the organisers from the Shropshire Wheelchair Tennis Group, the tournament hosts. "We had over 40 entries, six in the juniors, and the overall entry list featured probably 10 new faces, including some new players to wheelchair tennis."

"One came up from Southampton to play and we also had a French player, who is living over here at the moment, taking part."

Asif Abbasi, who was runner-up in Shrewsbury last year, won one better this time by winning the singles title in the main draw. He beat Philip Fielding 6-2, 6-2 in the final.

But Fielding was not to be denied a title and teamed up with Mark Langeveld to get the better of John Lambert and Mehboob Hussain in the doubles final. The junior winner was Martha Harris, with the trophies presented by Simon Jones, the vice-chairman of Tennis Shropshire, which support the annual event.

## Young Jack riding high with top time for Paragon

AFTER the sunshine of round three, it was a cool damp night with the threat of rain for round four of the Oswestry Paragon's cycling time trial series.

It was Daniel Elliot of Tri Central UK who became the fourth different winner so far this year coming home in 22min54 ahead of round one victor Ben Pierce.

The Mid Shropshire Wheelers junior took second place in 23min17secs putting him five seconds ahead of team-mate Dave Saunders (23:22).

Taking the honours for fastest Paragon rider it was another junior Jack Young who crossed the line in 24:34 just two seconds ahead of team-mate Glyn Jones (24:36).

Sixth place went to another Mids rider Tim Jones who stopped the clock on 24:50.

### Best time

Jack Morris knocked a second off his previous best time this year to keep the lead in the competition for fastest ride on a standard road bike his time of 25:02 gave him seventh place, with Steve Roberts taking eighth in 25:33.

Two more riders had a close battle for ninth and tenth with Wrexham RC's Peter Everett (25:54) just coming home ahead of Colin Lythe.

Megan Jones of Mid Shropshire Wheelers was the only junior lady to compete finishing in 32:17.

■ Two Paragon riders took part in the Classic Anfield 100-mile trial on Bank Holiday Monday. Colin Lythe completed the sporting 100-mile course in 04hrs 54mins 01sec and Helen Tudor in 05:05:28

## Evie crowned as the British junior champ

THE daughter of North Shropshire MP Owen Paterson has ridden her way to a major horse eventing championship.

Sixteen-year-old Evie Paterson, who lives near Ellesmere, won the British Junior Eventing title at Cheltenham racecourse.

The young rider took the honour despite having to juggle her training with studying for her GCSEs. Just hours after lifting the trophy, she was back at school to take her exams.

The three-day championship was won on her horse Direct Opposition - fondly known as Chips. The competition involved dressage, cross country and showjumping sections.

MP Paterson said his daughter had been competing against older riders and those with much more experience.

"We are very proud of her. She has worked incredibly hard, putting in endless practice to win the championships," he said.

He said Evie now hoped to be selected for the junior British three-day eventing team.

## Connor ties for sixth spot

YOUNG Shropshire & Herefordshire golfer Connor Owen enjoyed a top-six finish at the Welsh Youth Championships.

Owen, part of the county team that played in the Midland 10 Counties at Ludlow last week, was one of four players tied for sixth at Wenvoe Castle out of a field of more than 100.

The Oswestry member, who also plays out of Aberdovey, recovered from a poor start to finish one over par for the tournament.

His first-round 77 was followed by scores of 69, 70 and 73.

# Oswestry find their luck is out again

### CRICKET

**OSWESTRY** first team skipper Robbie Clarke could be forgiven for thinking that Lady Luck has been a little unkind to him this season, having lost the toss on each and every single occasion.

The toss can play an important part in any sporting contest particularly in cricket, and so it proved to be at the Stonehouse Oval on Saturday, when Oswestry narrowly lost to Kidderminster by three wickets.

Invited to bat in bowler-friendly conditions with the ball hooping about and moving off the seam, the Morda Road men were in difficulties right from the start. Joe Carassco, Xavier Clarke, Warrick Fynn and Worcester star Joe Clarke were all back in the pavilion with the Oswestry innings in tatters at 20-4.

Robbie Clarke (20) and Roman Walker (27) repaired some of the damage, but when Ritu Raj Singh, the Indian overseas professional was bowled first ball by an unplayable delivery from Barney Morgan, Oswestry, at 75-7, were in real danger of not reaching three figures.

A spirited response from Dean Suter (22), Alex Davison (11) Charlie Morris (27) and Ian Davies (12\*) saw the home side claw its way to 151 after 50 overs. Morgan was the best bowler for the Carpet men finishing with 3-31 of his 13 overs.

Having got back into the game Oswestry went in search of early wickets with new paceman Singh consistently beat the bat, without finding the edge.

Former Worcestershire batsman and Herefordshire opener Matt Pardoe held the visitors' innings together, while those around him struggled. When Pardoe finally went for an excellent 51, being bowled by left arm spinner Warrick Fynn, Kidderminster were suddenly 100-5 and with stalwart Ian Davies taking two wickets in quick succession, Oswestry sensed victory with the visitors teetering on a 118-7.

The Kidderminster lower order batsmen Simon Greenall (14\*) and Barney Morgan (23\*), however, held their nerve, getting home with few alarms in the 43rd over. Davies again returned impressive figures of 3-24.

■ Oswestry seconds were well beaten at Pelsall going down by eight wickets in the Reserve Division North of the Birmingham League after they were bowled out for just 114.

It could have been much worse if it had not been for some courageous batting from the young Oakley brothers who put on 51 for the ninth wicket with Keenan and Max scoring 32 and 19 respectively. Stuart Terry, undefeated on 45 guided the Staffordshire side home with overs to spare. Josh Darley and Max Oakley shared the two Pelsall wickets to fall.

■ Oswestry thirds had an encouraging win over Corvedale. James Bradbury scored a patient and valuable half-century and with the help of Johnnie Davies (22) saw the home side post a total of 147-8 off 40 overs. The South Shropshire side were bowled out 95 in the 25th over.

## Knockin hosting big ECB event



The Knockin Ladies are all smiles at the Beacon Softball Cricket Festival

**KNOCKIN & Kinnerley CC** will host the third of Shropshire's popular Women's Softball Cricket Festivals this Sunday, June 10.

If follows on from the first two festivals of the season held at Beacon CC in Shrewsbury and Bridgnorth CC which have proved a big success.

There will be eight held throughout Shropshire this summer as part of the national Cricket Unleashed initiative by the ECB.

It aims to inspire more people, in particular women and girls, to have opportunity to get a bat and ball in hand and have a go at the game.

The event at Knockin & Kin-

nerley on June 10 will start at midday and will include a dance warm-up, games, food and laughs in a relaxed social vibe.

The festivals have produced rave reviews from those who have taken part so far.

Rhod Alton from Shrewsbury said: "It was a great day, such a fun thing to do with friends but also a great way to try out the sport and a great family day for everyone watching. I can't wait until the next one."

Louise Pugh, one of the team of festival hosts said: "The festivals have been a great success thanks to all the hard work from the volunteers at the clubs.

"It has been fantastic to see so

many women enjoying themselves and having a go at the sport in a fun and relaxed atmosphere, we can't wait for the next festival at Knockin & Kinnerley!"

The festivals are free to enter, everyone gets a free T-shirt which allows them to have a go, try a new skill and have the opportunity to meet people. You don't even have to be a member of a team, the organisers will find you one to join on the day.

To enter the festival visit: <https://booking.ecb.co.uk/c/express/0415f2d0-ef62-4ecb-b923-3f9a703fb4> or <https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/womens-softball-cricket-festivals> and select Shropshire as a region.

## Keys turns on style with five wickets

**Knockin & Kinnerley 114-7 (21 pts) beat Wroxeter and Uppington 113 (4 pts).**

KNOCKIN'S winning run in Shropshire Cricket League division one continued with a hard fought win at Wroxeter.

Winning the toss, captain Jak Jones elected to field and openers Shaun Davis and Jonny Evans set about the Wroxeter batsmen with some gusto. Opener Elié was dismissed for a duck and the slide really started from there with none of the home team's recognised batmen getting a start.

Having been reduced to 55-6, Wroxeter looked to have gone, but a late rally by captain Dan Harris 32 and Joe Brown 12 gave their close on 113 all out an air of respectability. All Knockin's bowlers performed with discipline and accuracy, but Josh Keys, with 5-29 was clearly the pick.

Knockin's batsmen were to find it similarly difficult to get going on a slow pitch and were reduced to 66-6 in the 19th over. In what was to be a man of the match performance, Keys (48 not out) proved him-

self to be "a man for all seasons" and held steadfast to bring the team home for a win by three wickets.

Captain Jak Jones was pleased his team got over the line saying: "I'm under no illusions that much of the credit for today's win goes to Josh Keys whose outstanding bowling and gritty batting proved to be the difference between the teams."

This is a difficult place to play cricket though and after a couple of straightforward victories, it might have done us some good to have what could be called an ugly win. We go to Pontesbury next week for what will be top of the table clash, so it's clear we will need to step up a level and bring our game."

**Knockin III 92-5 (20 pts) beat Sentinel III 91 all out (2 pts)**

With Sentinel reduced to 8-5 early in their innings, this looked like a straightforward Sunday

division one win for Knockin.

An inspired Greg Stokes took 4-18, with twin brother Ryan taking 2-8 from three over. Sentinel laid late through John Ashton (41) and Adam Barnett (18) to give their bowlers something to defend.

Batting was not easy on this pitch, but Knockin's batsmen were disciplined and held firm. Opener Rhys Williams could not match his earlier season scoring feats, but his 29 runs prove pivotal as the away team reached their target, 92-5 in the 34th over. This win puts Knockin at the top of the table.

**Knockin & Kinnerley VI 148-3 (20pts) beat Madeley VI 147-6 (4pts)**

Knockin secured their first Sunday division two win of the season under stand-in captain Barney Pitt at home to Madeley. Knockin's young bowlers George Lloyd and George Lawrence kept Madeley's scoring down to 147 before 15-year-old batsman Joe Wilkinson got 27 runs while Dave Jones hit 49 not out which saw the team over the line.

## Shropshire golf returns

### Henlle Park

**May Medal Chirk Challenge Cup** – Division 1: 1 Andrew Eaton 78-12c=66, 2 Jack Harris 75-8c=67, 3 Michael Andrew Jones 77-9c=68, Division 2: 1 Ian Paul Harris 89-19c=70, 2 Gary Campbell 93-20c=73, 3 Mark Elson 89-18c=69, Division 3: 1 Richard Lee Kempster 96-27c=69, 2 Neil Durban 97-24c=73, 3 John Bennett 100-25c=75.

**Texas Scramble**: 1 Jim Fenn, Eugene Williams & Peter Brooks 64 net; 2 Pete Kanes, Chris Jones, Alan Edwards 62 net, 3 DS Jones, Mike Welch & Nick Jurkojc 64 net c/b. **President's Cup**: 1 Derek Kellett & Gerald Taylor 44pts, 2 Tony Davies & Viv Davies 43pts, 3 Steve Heathcock & Ryan Morris 43pts c/b. Nearest the pin: Rob Strong. Longest drive (men): Stu Heathcock. Longest drive (ladies): Sue Sims. Longest drive (men): Stu Heathcock.

### Clanymynech

**Coronation Cup**: 1 Muriel Morris 82-19-63, 2 Stuart Jones 73-7-66, 3 George T Hughes 68-1-67, 4 James Hampson 69-2-67, 5 Chris Logsdail 87-20-67.

**Open AM-AM**: 1 Ian Jones, Chris Logsdail, Jim Logsdail and Mike Ferguson 90 (Clanymynech); 2 Dean Peters, Mark Jones, Dave Hughes and Don Bradley 87 cb (Clanymynech); 3 S Gregory, D Parsons, R Ebbrell and G Higgins 87 cb (Lydstep Park Club).

**Midlands**: 1 David Allen 74-80-144, 2 Chris Hilditch 72-4-80, 3 Steve Williams 80-70-150, 4 Jenny Jenkins 74-4-70, 5 Huw Williams 82-71-71, 5 Johnny Evans 80-9-71, Division 2: 1 Spencer Tomkins 84-17-67, 2 Bryn Jones 84-13-71, 3 Jon Cleaton 85-13-72, 4 Mark Charlton 90-18-72, 5 Lionel Lee 89-16-73, Division 3: 1 Joel Williams 92-26-66, 2 Paul Rowney 94-26-66, 3 Harvey Stringer 93-26-67, 4 Laurence Cooper 93-26-67, 5 Daniel Williams 93-25-68, 6 Tim Reilly 93-25-68. Winner of '24' Cup: Joel Williams.

### Ladies End

**Seniors' Team Texas**: 1 Keith Evans, Gary Turner, John Armitage, Bob G-Thompson nett 60; 2 Tony Quinn, Mike Randal, Daniel McKay, Terry Perks nett 62.5.

**Ladies' Medal** – Division 1: 1 Di Bradbury 88-14-74, 2 Sue Robson 94-15=79, 3 Anna Pugh 96-16=80, Division 2: 1 Barbara Bain 98-27-71, 2 Joanne Williams 108-34-72, 3 Sue O'Conor 97-30-75.

**Mid-Stableford**: Division 1: 1 Bob Sharpe 38pts, 2 Steve Daniels 38pts, 3 Neil Exton 37pts, Division 2: 1 Colin Amyes 41pts, 2 Keith Evans 37pts, 3 Di Bradbury 35pts, Division 3: 1 Daniel McKay 40pts, 2 John E Roberts 39pts, 3 Jim Reilly 36pts. Nearest the pin: Ricky Burke 3ft.

## Ladies beat downpours to net a win

**OSWESTRY** Tennis Club's Ladies third team beat the weather – and visiting Hollies III – when the took to the courts for the first time this season in the Shropshire League.

Although the forecast was for predicted thunderstorms the team captains decided to not postpone and it was the right decision as they only had to stop play for about twenty minutes for a heavy rain shower.

In the first round rubbers Captain Linda Davies partnered Carolyn Yates for the first time and had a very close encounter with games evenly won by both teams until the Oswestry pair sneaked ahead in the final games of each set winning in straight sets 6-4, 6-4.

The second pair of Jo Dalietos and partner Liz Newsholme were equally as impressive also winning in straight sets 6-1, 6-3.

In the reverse rubbers Davies and Yates won the first set 6-3 and then ran away with the second 6-0.

Dalietos and Newsholme took the first set 6-3 but let the opposition back into the rubber by dropping the second set 4-6 taking it to a deciding third set tie break. This was a very tense affair and the Oswestry pair kept their concentration and pulled ahead to win 1-0 (10-5) so a maximum four points was a great result.

## Ellesmere are team to beat

ANOTHER day, another victory for Ellesmere, the second division leaders, after they emerged impressive 123 run winners at fellow good starters Ludlow III in a top of the table clash.

Joe Austin took centre stage with a return of 6-34 and Kieran Barry also played his part with a haul of 3-24 as Ludlow were sent back for 127.

Ellesmere earlier scored freely to post 250. Jonathan Mitchell top scored with 60, a knock complemented by Max Smith (48), Tom Davies (40) and allrounder Barry (40), with Luke Hicks taking 4-48 for the hosts.

### CRICKET

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## Welshpool in wild card for Premier Cup

WELSHPOOL Town FC are celebrating after the Welsh Premier League Panel has granted them a wild card application to play in the WPL League Cup.

Rhyl, Flint Town United, Ton Pentre and Welshpool Town were the four successful applicants, and will join the 12 sides from the JD Welsh Premier League and six teams each from the Huws Gray Alliance and Welsh League division one in next season's competition.

The competition will be regionalised in the first three rounds, with the semi-finals, which this year will be played over a weekend, an open draw.

In its application Welshpool stressed its long and proud history as one of the leading amateur clubs in Wales, as well as the problems of the last decade.

However, this season the fruits of some hard labour have begun to reap reward. The club runs over 15 teams at various age ranges, has a Youth team, a Reserve team and a First team who finished runners up in the league as well as reaching its first cup final in 17 years.

This has happened alongside ground improvements which culminated in the opening of the Tegwyn Evans MBE Stand by the then Wales manager Chris Coleman in 2016.

The club has seen the highs and lows of local football but by re-visiting the vision for the club it has hopefully been put on firmer ground than it has been for many years with a bright future ahead.

For the club to even consider entering a tournament such as this five years ago would have been unthinkable but it does so now safe in the knowledge that a challenge such as this would be a true reward for the hard work put in to the club by so many people.

This year marks the 140th anniversary of the club, which was founded in 1878 and participating in this tournament will be a fitting celebration of one of the oldest clubs in mid-Wales.

## TNS snap up rising star from Liverpool

THE NEW SAINTS have signed former Liverpool youngster Kane Lewis after he was released by the Reds.

The 20-year-old is capable of playing centre-back or right-back and was snapped up by Liverpool in the summer of 2014 after coming through the Brentford academy.

Impressing Jurgen Klopp, the then teenager signed a professional contract with the Merseyside giants, becoming a regular in the Reds' Academy.

He was given a professional contract in 2016 but has hooked up with TNS after being released this summer.

"I am very pleased to have finally put pen to paper with this amazing club and to see what the future holds," said Lewis.

"I'm looking forward to the Champions League qualifiers and being a part of an ongoing trophy-winning club."

"I can't wait to get started."

# CLARKE KEEN TO CLOSE GAP

## CRICKET

**OSWESTRY** skipper Robbie Clarke is confident his side can clear the Birmingham League division one danger zone after pushing high-flying Kidderminster close last weekend.

The Morda Road side are third-bottom of the early table and host a Brockhampton side a place below in the standings on Saturday.

And Clarke believes his side can turn things around in what is a proving a competitive division this season saying: "All sides are capable of beating each other on their day, but we are now competing well and must take heart from that.

"We know a couple of wins on the bounce could see us right up the table.

"We did well to get ourselves back into the game, but unfortunately didn't quite bowl the right line and length at the death."

Brockhampton – who won last weekend – were relegated along with Kidderminster from the premier division at the end of last season.

With Wellington also winning at the weekend, the gap at the bottom of the league has now closed and Oswestry will be anxious to secure maximum points against the Herefordshire side.

A late rally from wicketkeeper Simon Greenall and Barney Morgan ended Oswestry's hopes of victory at home to Kidderminster.

The visitors were struggling at 118-7, still needing 34 for victory, until Greenall (14) and Morgan (23) steered Kidderminster to a three-wicket success. Ian Davies (3-24) was the pick of the Oswestry attack.

After being put into bat, it had needed the Oswestry tail to wag to get them up to 151 all out.

Charlie Morris and Roman Walker both made 27 and there was good support from wicket-keeper Dean Suter (22).

Stunned skipper Chris Murrall summed up **SHIPNAL'S** emphatic nine-wicket defeat to Brockhampton, admitting: "It was one to forget."

Shipnal were skittled out for just 32 in a loss that saw them knocked off the top of Birmingham League Division One.

After being put into bat, no player reached double figures as the hosts were dismissed in just 22.1 overs with Jamie McIlroy (5-15) and former Worcestershire captain Daryl Mitchell (3-2) doing most of the damage.

"It's just one of those things, there's not much you can say," said Murrall. "They bowled very well and we didn't bat very well."

"I don't think the wicket was bad as it probably looks from the outside. They bowled really well and they deserved everything they got."

"It's not one to look back on fondly. We need to forget about it and move on, pretend it never happened."

## Kershaw claims the crown



On the green are Joey Williams, Roger Candalin of host club Llanymynech and Neil Kershaw

NEIL KERSHAW beat a Welsh county player short work in getting past his three opponents.

"Neil was straight out of the blocks playing

some excellent bowls and soon built a commanding lead.

"Try as he might, Joey took too long to get a throw of the jack and then failed to keep hold of it each time he led."

"The losing semi-finalists were defending champion Mark Littlehales of Ponciau Park and Phil Jones of Cynwyd."

Kershaw and left-hander Williams look like having another battle this season at the top of the Division Four averages as their clubs also fight it out for first place.

## Ex-TNS man Rawlinson to realise dream at Port Vale

HE has won everything the Welsh domestic game has to offer – now one of The New Saints' stalwarts hopes to realise his Football League dream with Port Vale.

Defender Connell Rawlinson's path to professional football in the English game with Chester City was blocked due to the Cestrians' winding-up order in 2010.

But the Chester-born 26-year-old turned that disappointment into an opportunity as he moved to TNS, where he has spent eight years since and cleaned up with medals and honours.

However, Rawlinson always harboured an ambition to play in the EFL and reportedly rejected a new TNS deal earlier this year – with Vale boss Neil Aspin stepping in to benefit from a free transfer as the defender joined the Valiants on a one-year deal.

It wasn't only Vale who were keen to get Rawlinson, with rivals Morecambe and Yeovil also in the running.

Rawlinson explained why, for him, it was now or never. "I've developed into an all-rounded centre-half and I think it's my time at the minute," he said. "If I didn't go now at 26 then I might miss the boat so it's time for me to push on and really develop somewhere else."

"I love everyone at TNS. The backroom staff, coaching staff and the lads. I've known some of these people nearly a decade and it's been a big part of my life. It's not that I wanted to leave it's that I had to leave to progress, push on and stay motivated and become a better player again."

"I've reached my potential at TNS, being successful in a team for a period of time and won a lot of titles, playing in the Champions League more than 14 times."

Under former team-mate and now Saints boss Scott Ruscoe, Rawlinson and Co won Welsh Premier League No.7 on the bounce last season. Rawlinson has continually impressed and thrived in the Welsh game, developing the technical side of his game on 3G and 4G surfaces, as well as learning to bring the ball from defence in your cap.

He added: "When I signed at TNS I learned my trade, matured as a centre-half and learned the game. The way they play I became handy with the ball playing from the back. It's another feather in your cap."

"Scotty wants to keep hold of his better players and build a squad around lads that have been there and understand the club. But they know on a personal level, being players themselves, there is a time to leave and take your chance while it's there."

How does the winning machine at Park Hall remain motivated? Rawlinson, who has 15 trophies in his eight years, explained: "I think it's just bred at TNS. Winning is what they do. I've been here through the most successful period in the club's history."



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